

# Public Libraries

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## Books that Tell Boys and Girls How to Make and Do Things\*

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WEBSTER says culture is the training or refining of the moral or intellectual faculties. Of the three ways, personal observation, being told, and reading, the last mentioned is the one most universally used since the printing art has become so well established. There has always been a difference of opinion as to the best reading and study for a cultural education, some maintaining that books on history, literature and art were the only kind; others that books on the industries were just as good and in many cases far better, accomplishing results where other reading has failed. Teachers of all kinds of hand work or industrial subjects have greater faith in the latter kind of reading.

Activity of child and youth is one of the reasons why it is so difficult to get many boys and girls to use books. They are too anxious to be physically active to take time to sit down and read. And right here is where the books come in on things which help to fill up the active life of youth. The wise parent or teacher will not deprive the child of five or six years of the stimulating influence to the imagination of fairy tales or Mother Goose rhymes. In fact, far from depriving them of such they think it a neces-

sary part of their mental growth. Why not, when the boy begins to be interested in the aeroplane, and you see him take a part of the backyard fence to fashion a crudely shaped propeller, give him a tip on where he can find sketches of approved designs and descriptions of the working parts in small model aeroplanes. "Kite craft and kite tournaments" by Miller is a very good example of books written for such boys. It gives details of all kinds of kites, windmills, balloons, and aeroplanes a boy might make.

Electricity is another subject nearly all boys are interested in or would be if they had a chance to read and learn more about it. Once in conversation with one of our eleven-year-old boys I asked him what electricians' friction tape was made of, and his reply, what one might have expected from a college professor, but certainly not from an eleven-year-old boy, was, "I do not know the exact composition, but I think it is some kind of a sensitive gauze impregnated with an adhesive compound." If he did not have the exact information he knew from observation and reading a few of its composites and qualities and he could talk on electricity quite intelligently. In the *Boys' Magazine* and *Popular Mechanics Magazine* there are always many sketches and descriptions of electrical apparatus which can be easily made by a boy with

\*Read at conference on children's reading held in Grand Rapids public library, May 5, 1917.

ambition, and make very interesting reading.

If a boy shows particular interest in the building which is being done in the neighborhood or wants a house for doves or rabbits, let him read in the book, "Carpentry," by Edwin Foster, and he will glean more than he needs for the occasion. For sketches of bird houses and how to make them, and a few notes on the habits of different birds let him have a "Harper's Outdoor book for boys," by Joseph H. Adams, or the little booklet issued by the Government Printing Office in Washington, "Bird houses and how to build them." I know of few boys who are not interested in things which are treated of in both of these. The latter is particularly good as it gives the correct dimensions of openings, sizes, and shapes of bird houses, feeding shelters, etc. If you have been unable to get a boy interested in some particular activity, let him read "Outdoor handy book for boys," by D. C. Beard or "Every boy's book of hobbies," by Bullivant, and he is ill if he does not want to get a camping outfit made or beg for chance to try raising guinea-pigs or chickens. Both of these books are brim full of things boys delight in and many of them are interesting, as well, to girls.

"Handicraft in wood and metal," by Hooper and Shirley, is an excellent book on the making of things in wood and metal. Many of these are good for girls, especially the art metal work and jewelry shown and described. This book gives a good description and history of the tools used in the wood and metal working crafts. "Primary handwork," by Wilhelmina Seegmiller, is excellent for all kinds of paper cutting, weaving of paper, raffia, reed and wool. The books "Pine needle basket book," by Mrs. M. J. McAfee, and "Seat weaving," by L. D. Perry, are very complete on their respective subjects. The latter is the best book I have ever seen on the weaving of cane, rush, and splint. Many examples are given of the application of the different kinds of weaving in seats, backs, and panels of furniture.

Knowing the fondness of most boys for outdoor life and water sports many books have been published on boating and camping. One book already mentioned "Harper's Outdoor handy book for boys," by D. C. Beard, and "Boating book for boys," by Charles G. Davis, are very good for trapping, boating, camping, and fishing.

The rules for sports of various kinds are changing from time to time and many boys who are interested possess a handbook on rules for such sports. Those who do not should be given a chance to read "Games for the playground, home, school and gymnasium," by Jessie Bancroft. "Handbook of athletic games," by Bancroft and Pulvermacher, is very good, especially for older boys and girls. It gives a very complete description of the games and positions of players, so that anyone could study the game out in a few minutes and play it correctly.

While there have not been as many books written on the activities of girls especially, there is no reason why they should not be encouraged in reading the same books on the sports and industries, and receive the same amount of good therefrom. One book written especially for girls, namely, "American girl's home book of work and play," by Helen Campbell, is full of all kinds of games and suggestions for entertainments both indoors and out as well as many useful things for the home. "Harper's handy book for girls" details a variety of things which a girl can do in the home and industries. Needlework of all kinds, millinery, different methods of decorating, stenciling, casting in plaster, weaving nets or hammocks, as well as the keeping of a home in order, setting a table, and serving meals, are all very clearly described, and any girl, if for nothing but making a dress for her doll, should gain much inspiration from this book. In reading the books, "Handicrafts and recreations for girls," by Lina Beard and A. B. Beard, and "Three hundred things a bright girl can do," by Kelly, in which the making of toys in paper, cloth, and wood are described, busy and useful

hours may be spent, and ideas developed for filling up long winter evenings in much happier ways.

As manufacturers of different tools and materials get out booklets on the origin, use and misuse of their products and very often give pictures and drawings, and detailed descriptions of articles to be made with such tools and material, these booklets are very good for boys and girls.

It is not only necessary to supply boys and girls with information as to where to find the books on the particular things in which they are interested, but also of great importance in developing in them a resourceful character, strong in the proper direction, to arouse curiosity in them concerning the men and women who developed the different industries or perfected different products. Books on inventors and captains of industry are especially fine reading both for the history of the products of civilization and for the study of the characters, whose untiring perseverance produced them. In "Boys' book of new inventions," by Maule, the efforts of Wright Brothers, Edward Muybridge, Thomas Edison, Doctor Goldschmidt, and many others are quite interestingly told, and what boy or girl could not be helped by reading the stories of such men.

In the book, "Boys' life of Edison," by Wm. H. Meadowcroft, we find this paragraph referring to a destructive fire in his works:

In his attitude we find a true revelation of one conspicuous trait in Mr Edison. No one ever cried less over spilled milk than he. He had spent a fortune and had devoted nine years of his life to the most intense thought and labor in the creation and development of this vast enterprise. He had made many remarkable inventions and had achieved a very great success only to see his splendid results swept away in a moment. He did not sit down and bewail his lot, but with true philosophy and greatness of mind applied himself with characteristic energy to new work through which he might be able to open up a more promising future.

In the book "Pick, shovel, and pluck," by Bond, inventions and biography are so interwoven with adventures of the kind all boys delight in reading that the reader's interest is easily held. In this book the labors which have made for material progress in the industrial world are given a dignity which is not surpassed by any other field of effort. Again I say, "What boy will not unconsciously add some store to his own philosophy of life by reading such books."

And believing as we do in the finding of a life work for each boy and girl, early in their career, we can very easily put such reading before them that may help them in some measure decide for themselves into what field of activity they wish to enlist their services. Here they may learn to choose their work for their own existence and support of those dependent on them later, and to appreciate the efforts necessary in the success of other activities upon which they are dependent.

There are no dry books in the ideal library. The library is a dairy. Novels are milk: the standard ones, Jersey milk; the very light ones, watered milk. Short stories are condensed milk. Essays are cream. Poetry is whipped cream. Drama, of all literature the most selective, and aiming to entertain, is ice-cream. As class books are designed for our good, they are malted milk, that is, the interesting ones are. Those hard to swallow, are butter-

milk. Of course, if you happen to like butter-milk and to dislike malted milk, it is the other way around. If you like both,—why then you are a scholar. Translations are skimmed milk. Juvenile books, especially those like the juvenile edition of the Arabian Nights, are modified milk. Books containing morals are egg milk shakes. And the restricted books are egg-nogs.—*Cleveland Staff Bulletin*.

What will you have?

## Professional Standards\*

Marilla Waite Freeman, librarian, Goodwyn Institute library, Memphis, Tenn.

When asked to speak at this meeting on the subject of "Professional Standards," I had a moment of feeling like the very small high school freshman who walked into our library the other day, and announcing that he had to debate on "The short ballot," added valiantly, "The first thing I want to know is,—what is it?"

If with like courage we ask, "Professional Standards, what is it?" I suppose the answer for us library folk is,—Something we must prove we have before we can profess to be professionals.

It has long been a moot question—in the library world—whether librarianship can really assert its claim to be regarded as a profession. My notion is that it is entirely up to us. If we act like a profession the world will take us at our own valuation. Now we all know that in the legal, the clerical, the teaching, the engineering professions, not just anybody can be a lawyer or a doctor, a minister, a teacher or an engineer, on the sole ground that he or she loves arguments or pills, souls, children or bridges. Yet I venture to say that not a week passes with many of us librarians here, that we do not have perfectly self-assured applications for positions in our libraries, solely on the ground of a love of books, and a desire to be where there is plenty of time to read them.

Have you ever tried asking one of these young, or older, aspirants what was the last book she had read, and heard her respond somewhat hesitantly with *The eyes of the world* or *The million dollar mystery*; or with less candor scurry back to her school days and produce *Silas Marner* or *The lady of the lake*? I am not making fun of them—I love them all, and try to help them to their next step, but if we are to prove our claim to professional standards, we

can not go on letting them think that their next step can be that of "*being a librarian*," without further preliminaries.

What can we do about it? Shall I tell you what I say to these girls—doubtless you often say the same—something like this: If you really want to be a librarian, you will have to invest time and money in it. If you can possibly manage it, the first thing to do is to go to college, for four years if possible; if not four, as many as you can. There is not a scrap of knowledge you can get that you won't need sooner or later in a library. Every day you will find some new scrap called for; every day you will learn something new; and every day you will find some new gap in your education. Its an endless process, and you can't be too well equipped before you start in on it.

Perhaps at this point the girl interposes that she wants to go to college, but hasn't the money. If I see a gleam of real desire, with the hint of will-power to back it, I sometimes tell her my own never-to-be forgotten experience with that great and deeply mourned friend of all seekers after knowledge, the late President Harper, of the University of Chicago. I had had a year of college in the East, and two years of training and practice in a great reference library. But that unfinished college education haunted me. I proposed to President Harper that I should work my way thro' the University of Chicago by daily service in the University library. President Harper was interested, but there seemed at the moment no opening on the library staff. There was a second's pause in which he took the measure of my determination. Then he asked, "Miss Freeman, have you made up your mind that you're going thro' college anyway?" "Yes, Sir, I have." "Very well, then: I'll see that you do it." And he did.

\*Read before the Tennessee library association, Nashville, 1915.



It's a long, long road to anywhere, but making up your mind to go is a long step on the road.

Then, next, I tell my patient listener, comes the library school—for two years, if possible, or one at the least. Now perhaps you think I'm making the road look too long, but I'm thinking it's best to set our destination far and high, and then make the short-cuts and compromises later, if need be. We've doubtless all had to make them, but we still believe "a man's reach should exceed his grasp."

If her spirits have survived to this point, and she's still listening, I tell my girl about the different library schools: the ones which require a full college course for entrance, and will accept the college diploma in lieu of examination; those connected with universities which require two or three years of college work; those which demand a high school course or its equivalent, with entrance examinations more or less rigid. I show her the circulars of the different schools with their specimen examination papers.

From her reaction upon all this, I learn something of the girl's real character and initiative. Once in a while there is a girl who goes home with a library school catalog under her arm, and once in a longer while one who really makes the click of decision and enters upon the long road to real librarianship. To have found even one such girl in a community is to have raised the standard and quality of our profession. And, again, to those who were not equal, and thro' them gradually to the whole community, we have given a new idea of the library profession and what it stands for.

Now, it is true that among these girls there is now and then one of promising quality to whom any immediate prospect of securing further education seems so impossible that it practically is so. Also the exigencies of our library may require that we shall train some of our own helpers. Thus we find ourselves facing and finally embracing compromise and the short cut. This is not wholly bad, so long as we recognize the compromise as such, both for ourselves and for the girl, and hold fast to our ultimate ideal;

namely, for the girl, a fuller education, to which this preliminary library experience shall be a step; and for ourselves, a library manned with thoroughly trained workers.

But, even in compromise, there may be standards and these at least let us rigidly maintain. First of all, let us establish the rule that admission to our library service shall be conditional upon at least a high school education, and upon ability to pass a preliminary examination. This examination may be as simple as we find necessary, but should in any case include a few questions in literature, history, current events and general information. Hints for the preparation of such a list of questions may be had from the specimen entrance examinations in the catalogs of the various library schools; also from copies of actual examination questions used by the public libraries of Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Newark, St. Louis, and other large and smaller cities.

Some such suggestive questions perhaps serve as well as any to get at the general intelligence, accuracy of thought and information, and power of clear expression of the applicant for library service. The most intelligent set of answers may, however, come from the applicant whose personal qualifications are least desirable. It must therefore always be understood, that while the examination papers of applicants shall form the basis of recommendation to the Board of Trustees by the librarian, other qualifications are to be taken into consideration.

To make all this quite clear, it is well for a library to have on hand for distribution to applicants typed copies of the conditions and requirements for assistants in that particular library. You have in your hands copies of a suggested outline\* of such conditions and requirements which I have used in connection with a course of lectures given at the New York State library school. The figures for hours, minimum salary, etc.,

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\*Copies of the questions and outline distributed at the Tennessee meeting may be had upon application to Miss Freeman.

given throughout are merely suggestive, as these would necessarily vary somewhat in different libraries. They serve however to indicate something approaching that professional standard which we are striving to capture and define.

This outline is, as you will see, intended for such libraries as must train at least in part their own assistants. I have attached to it a brief list of handbooks of special value in training apprentices. The outline includes the provision that previous to being given paid employment, applicants who have passed the preliminary examination shall be required to take a course of training in the library, this training to include a stated number of hours of daily library service, exclusive of class and practice work, without salary, for a stated number of months.

This provision of course presupposes that the library has at its head a librarian, who either in her own person or in that of a trained assistant, is capable of giving to apprentice helpers a training, systematic, definite and valuable enough, to compensate them for the time given without salary, and, in turn, to compensate the library for the time which the librarian or trained assistant has given in instruction and supervision.

There has been much discussion pro and con of the value and, so to speak, the legitimacy of the apprentice class in the small or medium-sized library. The conclusion of the American Library Association committee on training and of thoughtful librarians in general, is somewhat as follows: That while the apprentice system is allowable and even advisable for libraries wishing to form a substitute list or an eligible list for minor positions, the training thus given should be confined at any given time to the number of candidates whom there is reasonable likelihood that the library can soon employ; that it should not be regarded as in any way a substitute for the regular training of the library schools, not as equipping the apprentice student for service in any other library than that in which she is trained; that, on the other hand, the assistant thus trained should

be given every incentive and opportunity for further study, and should be encouraged, whenever possible, to regard her training and experience in the library as a preliminary step toward regular library school training; this latter being essential to advancement to the highest positions in her own library, or to securing positions of responsibility in other libraries.

Now for the librarian of the small library who does not feel that she has either qualification or time for anything more than the most informal training of her helpers, there is another clause in our suggested outline. This is the clause which requires attendance upon the State or some other summer school for library training. If she cannot require this of assistants before they enter the library she may do so in their first summer of service, and usually the brief preliminary experience in the library will enable them to get more from the summer school than they could have done earlier. If the library can give paid leave of absence for the summer course, it will be amply repaid in the increased intelligence and skill of its assistants.

Here in Tennessee where we are blessed with an excellent summer school of our own at the State university, with two graduates of the New York State library school at its head, and the financial problem reduced to a minimum by short railway distances and a nominal tuition to residents of the state, there seems no possible reason why every library assistant in Tennessee should not have at least a summer school library training.

When she has had this she will thirst for more, and some day get it, and so our libraries will become what they should be, stimulating centers of education and intellectual growth not only for the community at large but also for the library worker herself.

Of course we librarians cannot afford to stay outside all this study and growth, and the surest way to encourage it in our assistants is to go in for all of it we ourselves can get. I feel that we should allow no false pride to stand in the way

of filling up the gaps in our own education and training, wherever and whenever opportunity arises. I believe that for such pride we should substitute that personal and professional pride which will not allow us to hold a position we do not feel fully qualified to fill, or which, finding us in such a position, will spur us on to qualify for filling it.

I have myself never ceased to hope that I shall someday be able to complete my own formal library-school training, which let itself get cut into by the above-mentioned necessity of compromise and the short cut. To paraphrase Oliver Wendell Holmes, there is a satisfaction in the consciousness of being well-finished (degreed and diplomaed) which even the consolations of religion cannot give. May we all attain thereunto in this world or the next.

Meanwhile, whether before or after finishing, there are certain professional duties and privileges which will help us to measure up to standard for ourselves, our libraries and our state. One of these is the attending of our own state library association, and the helping by every means in our power to make it a real force in the library progress of the state. Another is membership in the American Library Association, attendance upon its conferences, and co-operation in its plans and activities. I do not know of any better way to get the feeling of belonging to a real profession than by following the example of our friends the enemy, and marching in solid formation once in a while with our generals at the head.

Also we can never feel really professional till we read the organs of our calling, the *Library Journal* and *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* anyway, and then as many more such helpful publications as we can manage. It is true we never feel so yawning the chasm between what might be and what is, in our own achievement, as after perusing these records of the achievement of others. But I am certain this divine discontent gives a distinct boost to our professional ideals.

Now, I have dwelt at great length upon the importance of technical train-

ing and standards. These are indeed essential to any occupation which seeks to raise itself to the dignity of a profession. But let us not forget that in librarianship no less than in any other calling it is the man or woman underneath the technical training who counts. It is the man himself, tho' developed by education, and made skilful by training, who must ultimately determine the place his library and he himself shall occupy in the community. If he regards his library as merely a collection of reading matter of which he is the more or less skilled collector and custodian, and if he measures its usefulness purely by its statistics of circulation, his community will take him and his library largely at his own rating. If, on the other hand, he recognizes in his library the natural center of the thought-life of the community, and in its books a sort of living tool wherewith he may reach and vitalize the lives of every human being in that community, his sense of this and of his own responsibility and privilege must reflect itself in the community mind.

Professor John Erskine, of Columbia university, in a recent address to librarians, says wisely: "There was a time when the keepers of books were honored as the treasurers of wisdom, and it is your first duty, I think, to cultivate that attitude toward your own work; for books still are the magic of the race, our one great short-cut to experience; and, considering the critical influence that any reading may have upon a man's mind and soul, we ought to hold the librarian at least as responsible and as honored as the physician who has charge of our bodily health."

Professor Erskine goes on to beg that we shall avoid the danger of becoming book-keepers, rather than keepers of books, the danger of over-valuing our library statistics and under-valuing the effect of our books upon their readers. He enumerates three necessary steps in learning how to read, by the mastery of which we librarians may help our neighbors to read intelligently. He deduces that "true literature is read, not for its surface information, but for the experi-

ence we have while getting that information—that is, for its emotional effect upon us. By deciding what emotional reactions we shall cultivate, we decide what our philosophy of life shall be, and what civilization we shall live in." He points out that we do not know how to read until we understand the intellectual message of a book, respond to it emotionally, and can make an intelligent choice of books for the kind of emotion we wish to respond to.

"As librarians," says Professor Erskine, "you will have a thousand opportunities to teach your neighbors these simple but important principles; you can convert that profuse and random use of books which appears satisfactory only in library statistics, into a conscious and intelligible approach toward the wisdom of great men long dead, and toward your own ideals."

To do this, we must *have* our own ideals, must increase daily our own breadth of vision and richness of life. What we are as individuals must inevitably affect what our libraries shall be as institutions. Any intolerance in us will reflect itself in the spirit of our libraries, and in the exact measure of that intolerance will our libraries fall short of the "All things to all men" which should be *their* professional standard.

Especially should those of us who call ourselves practical, to borrow Max Eastman's distinction, be watchful not to neglect what may be called the inspirational side of our libraries. There is greater danger of this than of the neglect of the practical side by the inspirational librarian. The reason for this is that your inspirational man has a more active imagination, can more readily put himself in the other's place, and can therefore see and meet the needs of more people practical or otherwise, than can your so-called purely practical man. I might therefore say that to cultivate imagination, sympathy and understanding is one of the most fundamental steps for becoming a real professional librarian.

I am sure you must all meet frequently the same type of seeking which presents itself almost daily in my experi-

ence: men and women of all kinds and ages asking for something on "psychology." Wonderful and all-inclusive word of the twentieth century! Once in perhaps twenty times they do mean and want Baldwin or Angell or Ladd or Titchener. But with the other nineteen desire has a more immediate and personal aspect. They want psychology ready-for-use, psychology as it may be applied, sometimes to business, but more often directly to life itself. Briefly, they seek a key to happiness and efficiency. Vaguely they glimpse the old Socratic wisdom, "Know thyself."

My subject has too many phases for hope of exploring all. But I must say just one word more about the importance of the librarian himself or herself in this whole question of professions and standards. As I said in the beginning, it is really up to us to raise the status of libraries and librarianship in our community, our state and our United States. This first by raising our own library's standard of service, by making it indispensable to everyone in the community, and, as a first requisite to this end, by making ourselves more valued and valuable members of the community.

We have to deal with books and methods, but our ultimate aim is to reach people. We can only do this successfully if we are real people ourselves, individuals who stand for something in the community, and who take our places as persons in the affairs of the day, persons whose judgment is sought and valued.

One of the surest ways to make ourselves real individuals is to cultivate our powers of expression, thro' the spoken and the written word. Let us seize every opportunity, formal and informal, to speak to schools, clubs and all sorts of organizations, of our library, its resources, and its desire to co-operate in their work. Every public movement should be incited to think naturally of the library as its working laboratory and arsenal of supplies, and of the librarian as its trusted counsellor.

Then, we must write. The professional standard of the university faculty, which expects its members to produce as

well as teach, is worthy of our consideration. A profession without a literature is scarcely yet a profession. All honor to such contemporary names as Dana, Bostwick, Olcott and others who by their pens are doing much to give our profession a solid ground of achievement to stand upon. We are proud indeed that the very latest permanent contribution to library literature has come from Tennessee.

If we cannot all produce books as Miss Fay and Miss Eaton have just done for us in their fine "Text Book of Library Methods for Normal School Classes," we can at least resolve to produce one brief article each week for our local papers. It may be only a list of the new books added to the library that week, or a group of recent titles on some timely topic, with brief introductory comment, or a review of some one important book. It may be an announcement of a gift to the library, or of some event of interest

in the library or literary world, or an account of this state library association meeting.

However brief and slight, its writing will develop the writer as a person and therefore as a librarian, its reading will develop in the reader a growing appreciation of libraries and librarians, and both together may help to capture and fix for a moment one of those elusive professional standards which we have pursued so long and so patiently.

After all, in their very elusiveness lies their charm and their value. For after we have compassed all the qualities of training, of skill and of personality, which seems to us to fill out the full measure of librarianship, we find that the measure has been expanding with our growth, and that of our professional standards as of all ideals it is permanently and inspiringly true that there is ever a new and more distant star to which we may hitch the chariot of our aspiration.

### The Library's Relation to Local History\*

Lucy Elliot Keeler, Secretary of Birchard library, Freemont, Ohio.

**A**LL trustees are divided into two parts, of which the one takes a keen interest in the affair and the other does not. Naturally this audience is made up of the first class, so that any corrective seed that might be sown would here fall upon ground so densely planted and so intensively cultivated that there would be no room to receive it. To prove this, listen to any conversation between two eager trustees. The more agile gets the start in relating her experiences; the other listens only for the first opening to interrupt adroitly and recount her own. I have just arrived, so this remark is prophesy rather than present experience.

All trustees may be divided again into two parts; those who are old at the job and those who are new. The first rest

mostly on their laurels—no, on their oars; the second, having the ignorance and courage of the innovator wrestle with their mistakes, winning the sympathetic but pitying regard of their librarians. Sometimes, however, by sheer audacity, they light on profitable innovations.

Again, all trustees may be divided into two parts: those who say of a situation, "Nothing can be done," and do it; and those who say "There is everything to do," and at least get at it.

I have heard dark hints of still another partition of trustees—those who do too little and those who do too much—but this for personal reasons I choose to ignore.

Now having cut the trustees up into little stars, as Juliet longed to do of Romeo, to ornament the dark face of Heaven, I will arrange him and her into constellations.

\*From address before Ohio library association, Toledo, 1917.



First, then, behold the Board of Trustees as Orion—the mighty hunter: hunting appropriations from wary officials; hunting irresistible arguments to shoot at budget commissions; hunting possible donors for a dozen crying needs; hunting elusive charmers called librarians.

At a safe distance from Orion's shooting stars, sits Cassiopeia in her official chair, shaking her head sadly but firmly at the librarian who begs for new books, a war atlas in 20 parts, files, bulletin boards, bibliographies and a fireplace for the children. Cassiopeia, crippled—*planté-là*—in her chair.

Across the pole from Cassiopeia, shines the Dipper! Lo! the trustee as Dipper! dipping into soldiers' War Library schemes, a million dollars deep; dipping into coal bins—thirty tons short; dipping into bond issues, at peril of his office; dipping into Boards of Education, intent on their own concerns; dipping into librarians' controversies, with resultant explosions.

And, in the offing, lurk faintly Job's Coffin and the Crown. Which trustee is to have which is a matter to ponder.

Miss Tyler told me to talk a little about the library and local history and I am gradually reaching it via astronomy and the classics,—but if the trustees' problems which I have hinted at are *not* local history, I do not know what is.

Birchard library, at Fremont, has always urged a widespread familiarity with local history, and is itself an object lesson. Through the efforts of the first president of our Board, President Hayes, then governor of Ohio, the most historic spot in our town was secured as a site for the library—the old fort where was fought one of the most important battles of the War of 1812. Some 25 years later, a son of the President, who followed his father on the board, had translated from a neglected southern burying ground, the remains of our local hero, which were re-interred with military honors at the foot of the monument, near the library steps. Largely through the efforts of this same trustee, various tablets were placed on historic spots about our city. Some years ago, the

present secretary of the library prepared and printed a series of questions and answers on local history, which were used in the public schools. This pamphlet of some 30 pages dealt with old buildings, streets, traditions, customs, etc., and was compiled from a 50-year file of local newspapers. She followed this with monographs on special subjects, one on the river, one on the fort, one on the whole Sandusky country, etc., and these monographs being simple in style, anecdotal and freely illustrated, are in constant use. Most of them were first printed in the *Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly* and so bound up in their publications; but reprints were also made and widely distributed.

The library gets out occasional bulletins on local history, saying the old things in as fresh a way as possible; but a *few* of the *old* things in a stereotyped way, that by repetition they may get domesticated. For instance, I was hugely pleased to hear one small boy say to another pointing to the group of monument, grave and cannon,—“This fort is unique in being the only one in the country preserved in its original dimensions, with its original armament and with the bones of its defender.” That special dictum goes on almost every bulletin we issue.

These bulletins are prepared when special occasions loom in sight. Next Sunday the corner stone of a masonic temple is to be laid in Fremont and thousands of visitors are expected. We have been asked to have the library open for inspection that afternoon; and a new bulletin was prepared for distribution that day, though I confess I had this gathering also, in mind.

Our frequent library notes in the daily papers always include some item on local history,—call attention perhaps to an old village plat lately found and hung in the balcony; or to some manuscript Indian treaty, or to local relics; and such items draw visitors to the library.

Birchard library is the depository of the Sandusky County Pioneer society—its relics and records being kept there, and we have recently gathered together



and bound their *Year books* and scattered publications. The shelves devoted to local history, in both reference and circulating rooms are conspicuously labelled.

This work has hitherto been done entirely by the secretary and individual trustees of the library. The librarian has enough to do to make the books, pamphlets, files, clippings and scrap books accessible.

I have often thought of how much might be accomplished if each member of a library board would take some field of the work for his or her special hobby; consulting with fellow members and with the librarian; but evolving it as an individual accomplishment: local history perhaps, or exploitation of the library before chambers of commerce, city and study clubs, the schools, etc.; the development of the museum; establishing decent service; visiting and reporting upon other libraries; decorating the grounds with shrubs and labelling the trees; inaugurating an annual flower show or some occasional loan exhibits.

I wonder, too, what would result if each trustee should ask his or her librarian "What help can I give you?" and "If you can't say now, think it over and tell me later." If your librarian is worth much, she will find you a job, and if she

isn't, why *that* is your job, to get her to see that she should. My novice began under a little cataloger fresh from the library school. We were very short of help, very short of funds, very short of public support. She suggested that even I was capable of pasting in pockets, cutting pages, looking up Library of Congress card numbers, tying up magazines for the binders, doing tentative filing, and much other plain work. In this humble way I learned methods, and passed the information on to the Board. The next librarian told me that I should do none of those things, but she had an abundance of other assignments for me to struggle with.

Certainly library trustees must not in-trench themselves behind any successes of the past, but must keep pace with the changing years; keep pace with the ambitions of this fine army of young librarians, eager, trained, competent; be to them a quickening force; encourage them in initiative, and give them freedom and funds to work out their plans; impose responsibility, demand results; and then, generously and justly, accord them the praise and appreciation they so well deserve.

I should hate to be a library official and not leave some impress on the work entrusted to me.

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## The Old Librarian and the New

Prof. R. C. Davis, librarian emeritis, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

The office of librarian is very old. We have the name of one *Nabusequib-gina* who occupied such a position at an earlier date than that used for the creation of the world in Bible chronology. Evidently librarianship as practised then became a "lost art." Dr Johnson, in 1755 defined the word librarian thus "One who has the care of a library." Now this conception of the librarian a caretaker was practically unchanged up to the beginning of the present library movement about fifty years ago. Contrast with that conception of a li-

brarian, a caretaker simply, with the librarian of today!

I think of the change as coming about in this way. Sometime or other ambition crept into the bosom of the old librarian. He felt he could take care of more books than he had. Also, it would enhance his dignity to have more, and he set about acquiring them in the ways that seemed to him best, so to the care of books was added the art of accumulating them. As the number of books increased certain problems presented themselves. The swollen contents of the library became

unmanageable. Some turning process became necessary. One character developed by these problems was the bibliographer, the cataloger. The caretaker and accumulator cataloged his books. But cataloging could not be a finished process without classification. Now classification has its foundations down deep in pure reason. What comes of that? A librarian who is also a *philosopher*. The title of philosopher might be wanting, but when the librarian had made a classification of his books, which is a classification of knowledge, he had thereby raised himself to that honorable level. In the farther exercise of his reason he asked himself what he could do next. He was not long in doubt. He had something to give his fellow men and he proceeded to make the fact known to them. He became, in the inelegant language of the college student in advertising "events," a "Barker." He advertised, putting over his door the inscription that graced the entrance of the old Theban library—"The Balsalm of the Mind."

Success attending the efforts that had been made, new problems arose. Mutilation and theft of books came to light. The making of a Sherlock Holmes might not be in him, but some kind of a detective the librarian must become. His books outgrew their lodgings and must have new and larger ones. He studied library architecture. An aesthetic wave swept over the country; decoration must be a prominent feature of the new quarters. He studied the pertinent phases of art.

Meantime the pulpit and the platform, which had hitherto supplemented the work of the teacher suffered eclipse. The librarian to the rescue! Philanthropy got the ear of the world and the world was moved to do something for its unfortunate and its criminals. One thing this aroused world commanded was the extension of the activities of its public libraries to penal and reformatory institutions, saddling on the librarian the character of reformer and expert in psychological problems.

I have not enumerated all of the new

characters that the librarian has assumed voluntarily, or accepted under compulsion, but enough to show the encyclopedical nature of his present make up, and how far off are the days when he was simply one who had "the care of books."

When the obligations on the part of governing boards and the public have been generously and sympathetically met the acquisitions referred to on the part of the librarian have been less a task than a pleasure, when they have not been recognized, and instances of this kind are not rare—success, if achieved, has been achieved at a very perceptible cost to heart and brain.

In choosing and pursuing the calling of librarian in these strenuous times it is not safe to do so with the expectation that no unpleasantness will mar it. Freedom from difficulties and annoyances can no more be guaranteed in this pursuit than in any other. But I know of no calling in which nobler service can be done. In the performance of its duties the rules that have successfully guided one librarian will not guide another to equal success. The old brief rule, profitable for all occupations, is the profitable one for the librarian. He must "*put his best*" into his work. If he comes to his work with a fair equipment for it and a resolution to put his best into it, the difficulties will be overcome, the opportunities, which will not be few, improved, and the result will be success.

The office of librarian is an honorable one. When first instituted it was held by kings' sons. In the performance of its duties there is before the librarian the living generation in the midst of its activities; behind him in the books on the shelves the completed work of the generations of the dead. No other one labors amid such surroundings.

He who imagines he can do without the world deceives himself much; but he who fancies the world cannot do without him is under still greater deception.—  
*La Rochfoucauld.*

### Publicity for Libraries\*

John Boynton Kaiser, librarian, Public library, Tacoma, Wash.

A member of our profession, himself a member of it, has so often charged so savagely at papers presented at gatherings of library folk that it is with no small risk and with much trepidation that 'papers' may now be prepared by any of us for the edification of our collaborators. For thus are we addressed:

"You wouldn't have me make a new and original statement at a meeting of librarians, would you? That would never do! Part of them would denounce me as flippant, and the rest—the library magazines, for instance—would refer condescendingly that what I said as 'Clever,' which means 'smart but shallow.' The great art of a library meeting speech is to utter as many solemn platitudes as possible with a very solemn face. It is always sure to be called both 'scholarly' and 'sound.'"

One division of library publicity work might be that carried on within the library destined to affect only the patrons already there, and that carried on without the library and aiming to attract new patrons or to attract old patrons anew, or, still again, to attract regular patrons for new reasons.

Successful publicity within the library itself consists largely of displays of new books, small collections on subjects of current interest, of exhibits of pictures, paintings, etc., of booklists conveniently exposed, of attractive posters, of timely comments on books by staff members, and of effective and satisfying service. For every business house the satisfied patron is its best "ad." Should it not be so with us? It should, logically, and perhaps is, but my experience leads me to believe that satisfied patrons of the public library take their satisfaction rather quietly; the unsatisfied patron is the more efficient publicity agent on his own initiative.

Of external publicity measures aim-

ing to attract people to the library, those which operate through the newspapers are the most effective and least expensive. Mr Wheeler has divided into four groups the types of library notes for which newspapers are glad to give space. Borrowing his classification for the moment I will illustrate it by recent examples of newspaper publicity accorded the Tacoma public library.

Most preferred are news items concerning new policies, methods or efforts to improve the library. Illustrating this we have had publicity given our efforts to secure the return to the city of the Mason library donated to the city in 1898 and transferred to Whitworth college in 1899; to the successful culmination of a plan whereby the public library and the board of education will have joint jurisdiction over the two high school libraries, the public library installing a community circulating library in each; to the successful installation of a pay duplicate collection of fiction; to the proposed budget for 1915, etc.

Second come news items as to large increases in the library's collection or circulation illustrated by a summary of the work done for the twelve months ending June thirtieth, showing an increase in circulation over the preceding twelve months; by the announcement that the board of education had donated a full set of the public school text books to the library's reference department; the purchase of special books for the high school branches.

Short title lists of new additions of recent and interesting books is the third class. Two of our daily papers and recently the official *Municipal Bulletin* make this a regular feature once a month.

Short title subject lists, preferably annotated, on some subject of current interest or on a subject in controversy, is the fourth class. Illustrations are numerous; lists on cold storage when the question of a mechanical refrigerating plant to be run by the city was under consideration, a list of books

\*Read at the Spokane meeting of the Pacific Northwest library association, September, 1914.

showing the political and historical background of the present European war, a list on national forests and fire prevention in connection with an exhibit of national forest pictures, a rose-growing list for the rose show, one on vocational training apropos of a state conference on that subject in the city, one on Alaska in the Alaska Day issue of the press, and a special notice of Alaska laws available at the library,—these illustrations come readily to mind.

In talking with newspaper editors the question is often asked: "Can't you give us a 'story' on that?" And so we have "stories" of varying length embodying news features and even book lists. A chatty article on garden books, an interesting write-up of an old document on Indian Wars in the Northwest (presented by a Senator), a delightful illustrated account of the telling of fairy stories to little children at the public library, all and many more have found their way into Sunday editions.

One morning recently a 'phone call brought us the question whether or not a foreign-born resident must answer the summons to return to the mother country to bear arms. The international law authorities showed that as a naturalized American citizen he was safe and that if merely a resident alien he was safe provided he kept within the three mile limit of territorial waters belonging to the United States. The 'story' found its way into the afternoon papers and the public had an interesting bit of news and incidentally had learned that the library possessed international law authorities and all the treaties to which the United States is a party.

In addition to the foregoing types of news items it should be noted that all appointments and resignations of board members and staff members have decided news value and that when the press is supplied with full names and a bit of biographical data, busy editors and reporters are saved an irritating interruption. Notes of a talk by the

librarian or a staff member before a local organization, or a trip to a neighboring city for the same purpose advertise the library.

Before leaving the subject of newspaper publicity it may be in place to note that a news item or story if written at the library in journalistic style may save time at the newspaper office; also an interview typewritten in advance—and in duplicate—may save future embarrassment; editorials,—but here we may not venture to tread—in the editorial column we must expect to see ourselves as others see us.

My college roommate was once editor of the college paper, while I was a humble news-gatherer. Whatever he heard or saw on the campus, in the class room, at college functions of various sorts, everything was submitted to the same test—"Has it news value?" And, if so, "Chance for an article" might be heard in explosive tones whether the surroundings were a chapel prayer service or a snoring roommate. As a result "Has it news value?," "Is there a 'chance for an article'?" have become automatic inquiries concerning all new books, letters, queries, and administrative details that I encounter in the day's work.

I have dwelt long on newspaper publicity and must hasten. Post card notices to persons likely to be interested calling attention to new books are good but expensive; classified advertising—sending mimeographed or printed lists on special subjects to organizations and selected groups—is profitable; notices in department store delivery packages or in pay envelopes have proved successful in many instances; window exhibits of books and posters on busy streets are business getters; lists in trade journals and organization organs pay; co-operation with the moving picture theater has brought good results.

"Word-of-mouth" publicity is the most powerful of all, say most of us. Talks here and there bring returns in good measure. The circulation of the librarian results in a greater circulation for the books. Hardly a noon goes by

now but I am hailed at the Chamber of Commerce dining room by ardent searchers after information who think of the library resources when they see me.

Just two points more. Standardize and nationalize library publicity, as Mr Compton says. First, let certain ads meet you wherever you go. I expect to be told to 'Use Sapolio' and that 'Uneda Biscuit' whether riding up the 11th street cable in Tacoma or in a subway express and I am impressed with the universality of the command. Second nationalize library publicity through magazines of national reputation and circulation.

And now returns our arch critic: "Typical! Nothing new! Plagiarism! Solemn platitudes! Sound doctrine, nay, scholarly!"—Really the aim of library publicity is to have the 40% of the population who are prospective library users "Think library first" whenever occasion arises.

### Changed Title

Poetry of empire; 19 centuries of British history; selected and ed. by John and Jean Long; with 16 drawings in colour by W. Ranney. Lond. T. C. & E. C. Jack. 16 Henrietta St., W. C. and Edinburgh. 406 p.

Poetry of heroism; selected and ed. by John and Jean Long; with 16 drawings in colour by W. Rainey. N. Y. G. P. Putnam's Sons. Lond. T. C. & E. C. Jack. 406 p.

The books represented by the two titles cited above are identical, and while the minor phraseology of the titles may suggest to the alert book buyer the possibility of duplication yet the differences are so sharp, particularly in the first three words of each title as to suggest the lack of a proper ethical sense on the part of those publishers who determine the wording. It is a matter for regret that the two publishers concerned should be of such standing as Putnams and Jack. The pity is all the more when the books are, as in this case, more than ordinarily expensive.

J. I. WYER, JR.

### Commendation of the Public Library

A recent number of *Library Service*, the bulletin of the Detroit public library, had the following:

In John Barleycorn and Valley of the Moon, the author describes the use made of public libraries by two small boys, hungry for books. Wondering whether these experiences were Jack London's own, a member of the Detroit library staff wrote several years ago to the famous author and received the following reply:

Glen Ellen, California,

December 11, 1914.

In reply to yours of October 21, 1914:

Indeed, and in truth, what I have written in John Barleycorn and in The Valley of the Moon are my own experiences as regards free public libraries.

Two wonderful things happened to me when I was a small boy that practically deflected the entire course of my life, and I doubt if neither of these two wonderful things had happened to me that I should ever have become a writer.

The first wonderful thing was, when I was a little boy on a poor California ranch, finding a tattered copy of Ouida's novel entitled Signa. The end of this book was missing, but I read and reread and reread countless times the story of Signa and it put in me an ambition to get beyond the sky lines of my narrow California valley and opened up to me the possibilities of the world of art. In fact it became my star to which I hitched my child's wagon.

The second wonderful thing happened to me when, nine or ten years of age, my people were compelled to leave their mortgaged ranch and come to the city of Oakland to live. There I found access to the great world by means of the free public library of the City of Oakland. At that time Ina Coolbrith was the librarian of the Oakland Free Library. It was this world of books, now accessible, that practically gave me the basis of my education. Not until I began fighting for a living and making my first successes so that I was able to buy books for myself did I ever discontinue drawing many books on many library cards from out the Oakland free public library.

Sincerely yours,

JACK LONDON.

It is by presence of mind in untried emergencies that the native metal of a man is tested.—Lowell.



Subscription - - - - -	\$2 a year	Single number - - - - -	25 cents
Five copies to one library - - -	\$8 a year	Foreign subscriptions - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

## Advertising

**A** NOTICE in *Judicious Advertising* records an item under the head of "Economic Advertising" in regard to the Public library of Port Arthur, Ont. contracting for paid advertising space to be used to advertise the activities of the library along certain lines in which the public is interested. There doesn't seem to be any good reason why libraries should not advertise.

That advertising pays can not be questioned in the face of the vast sums that are spent annually by shrewd business houses, organizations, etc., in the matter of mere dollars and cents. If the public library aids the people, and it does, and they have employed some one to conduct it to the best

advantage, which they are supposed to do on employing a librarian, then that best advantage includes some process of making everybody in the community aware of the big thing that the library has that will be advantageous in some way to them. If paid-advertising space will accomplish this purpose with the least expenditure of time and strength, which is always in demand, for a sum that can be afforded, then certainly paid advertising is within the scope of legitimate expense in library service. Schools, colleges, churches, various institutions of dignity and standing advertise. Why should not the library also? There is no question but that it should, if definite results are achieved from such a procedure.

## Summer Library Schools

**T**HE several library schools throughout the country are announcing their summer terms and none too early if the best arrangements all around are to be made.

Perhaps one of the good things that some can get out of the evil days upon us, is the opportunity it affords in the lessened demand of this summer, for one or more members of many library staffs who have not had the benefit and privilege of regular study of the work

which engages their daily efforts, among others whose experiences have been different and from whom by contact and discussion they may obtain new ideals, widen their vision and increase their usefulness as library workers.

Wherever it is at all feasible librarians should encourage to the utmost the members of their staffs to enter the summer library schools. As a war work it will have its value in the new vision and new strength it will afford.



### A Live Institution

THE work of the State Library of Oregon in the United States Food Administration, judging by the amount of material distributed, certainly leaves no excuse for libraries in Oregon to omit anything that will make their work effective in the line of food conservation. Miss Cornelia Marvin of the State library, Salem, is library publicity director for Oregon.

The letters from Miss Marvin to the libraries of the state with that characteristic buoyancy for which she is noted, pump enthusiasm into every line of her publicity material. These consist of heart-to-heart talks with the

libraries, news items of what the libraries in Oregon and other places are doing, appeals for certain material or for certain classes of work, comments on certain books, pointing out valuable Government and state publications, directions for holding exhibits, opinions on recipes and posters, directions for interesting schools, etc., etc., always with the personal touch between the director and the librarians plainly in evidence.

If Oregon doesn't show up at the head of the list in food conservation it won't be because the State library has not done its part in the movement.

### Chicago's New Librarian

CARL BISMARCK RODEN, since 1909 assistant librarian of the Chicago public library, having won first place in the recent Civil Service examination for the position of chief librarian, was appointed to that office on March 11.

An intense anxiety was felt, in the interim between the death of Mr Henry E. Legler and the report of the results of the examination, lest the blight of political machinations, which have done so much to detract from the pride and efficiency of municipal affairs in Chicago in recent years, should add the public librarian to the long list of undesirables with which the city is burdened.

At an early date, the interest and efforts of those who were in a position to exercise watchfulness and power persisted in keeping before the public and those charged with the duty of filling the position, their intense desire that this educational institution should be as free as possible under the circum-

stances from any alliance with political entanglements. It was a veritable case of eternal vigilance saving the day at last. There is little room to doubt that without the attention that was bestowed on the situation, without the publicity that was given every movement the results would have been different. As it was, far too much lack of confidence in the final outcome was manifested even among those who were most concerned for the best interests of the situation.

Mr Roden began his services in the Chicago public library 32 years ago when he was 15 years old. He began as a page and has advanced through various positions until he has achieved his present one. Twice he has served as acting librarian, before the appointment of Mr Legler and after his death. At the Civil Service examination for librarian in 1909, he stood third on the list and was afterwards, at Mr Legler's request, made assistant librarian, a position that was created for him.

Mr Roden's valuable services in the city, state and national library organizations are too well known to need review here. He has filled his various library positions to the satisfaction of his directors and he enters on his new field of labor with the best wishes of his many friends and co-workers.

Mr Roden is a man of ability, but of a retiring disposition. He is absolutely without personal ambition, somewhat diffident in his relations with others, and yet when duty demands it, he takes his stand and defends it without boasting or apology.

He has now an opportunity such as comes to few men in library work. His path is not an easy one from any standpoint except in the support and belief in him on the part of those who are associated with him.

Speaking of plans for the future to members of the Chicago press, Mr Roden stated:

My whole life has been devoted to library work. If appointed, my whole task as librarian will be to continue what Mr Legler began. He was a great organizer. The circulation of the library increased under his direction from 1,500,000 to 6,000,000 volumes. There is a great opportunity here for further development.

### What is Our Function in War Time?

A RECENT editorial in the *Bulletin of the Art Institute*, Chicago (March), deals with the service of art in war time. By permission of the Director of the Art Institute, Mr G. W. Eggers, we reproduce the editorial. With a more definite message, the book may take to itself the very effective argument which is here presented for art.

"What, if any, is the place and function of art in war time?"

This question is in the mind of every art lover and every sincere artist. Between us and the answer lie other questions. What, if any, is the place and function of art in time of peace? How do our war duties to ourselves as a nation compare with our peace duties to ourselves? How much of concentration on one subject can the individual mind or the national consciousness endure without losing its edge?

These latter questions imply their own answers. The very existence of artists, art schools, and art museums after all these centuries of both peace and war is a partial answer to one of them. To the second we can say that anything which makes for health and poise, of mind or body, in the individual or in the nation in time of peace is an asset of double value in time of war. Art does these things and more.

For in addition to these it serves as a vehicle for the imagination, which in the last analysis we find has blazed the trail on which the race goes forward. It is no mere coincidence that Robert Fulton and S. F. B.

Morse were both painters of pictures before they made steamboats and telegraphs, nor is it a marvel that Leonardo da Vinci invented engines and weapons as well as Mona Lisas. As the play of children is an earnest rehearsal of the work which they are to perform later in life, so the activities of the adult imagination pave the way for the acceptance of new and strange realities when these shall be at hand. It was a great step, but only a step, from the figure of Atlas holding up the pagan heavens to the conception of Christ bearing the cross of mankind upon his shoulders. In wartime may it not be the peculiar function of the imaginative arts, which always hint at unseen meanings, to reconcile the human spirit to the things which the human flesh must undergo?

We are told that even in the trenches the men are obliged to keep their faces clean shaven and their clothes in order—all this diversion of energy to personal tasks from from the prime business of fighting being regarded as well spent in the purchase, among other things, of "morale." And what is this "morale?" Perhaps it is best explained by an illustration.

We have heard somewhere a fable of a pet ape whose master was wont to dress him in a silk hat and a high collar and to walk arm and arm with him in the park, and how upon a hot day when the master for compassion had relieved the ape of the troublesome collar, the animal fell at once upon all fours and became a wild beast again. He had simply lost his "morale." May we not have something of this kind to fear if we allow ourselves to be divested of the arts which civilization has evolved? For painting, sculpture, music, and literature tend to keep up

the morale of the community, the family, and the individual; and it must not be forgotten that the community, the family, and the individual are also units in the great army of the nation.

Already the need of attention to morale at home has made itself felt in an occasional isolated case. Now and then an individual, more highly strung than others, has been stimulated by the sight of some object which suggested the war, to an intensity of ex-

pression which contains the germ of panic. The help of every individual and every institution is needed now to make the distinction between true patriotism and these dangerous manifestations which masquerade under its name.

In the present crisis the Art Institute desires above all things to do its part in stabilizing the civic mind, for this, when all is said and done, is its fine and characteristic obligation.

### The Defenders of Democracy

AND now comes a real definite contribution for and to the books for the soldiers and sailors. "The Militia of Mercy," an organization whose roster of members shows names more or less prominent in the affairs of the times with the prefix "Mrs", has prepared and published a remarkably beautiful volume, "The defenders of democracy," made up from original contributions prepared especially for the volume and which, needless to say written under such an inspiration, are from the heart and speak to the highest emotion of the soul of man. The galaxy of names of contributors includes those highest in the roll of fame in the allied countries. Soldiers, statesmen, poets, artists, churchmen and writers give joyously of their richest dowers for the aid and cheer of the soldiers and sailors. For that, after all, is the purpose of the book—to carry a message of faith in and gratitude to our defenders, and through the aid of those who appreciate the beauty and message of the book to make it possible to provide for the dependents in the families of our defenders.

The book comes from the press of the

John Lane Company in the best form of their finest work, and was prepared by a committee of which Mrs John L. Griffiths and Mrs Penrhyn Stanlaws were editors and is "dedicated to Our Sailors, Soldiers and Nurses." The illustrations, originals in color, are from Hassam, Sargent, Bellows, Gibson, Pennell, Guerin, Sterner and others well known. The portraits are of the leaders of the world's thought and action and include President Wilson, Marshal Joffre, Arthur J. Balfour, Cardinal Mercier, Admiral Sims, General Pershing, General Cardoun, Theodore Roosevelt and others.

"The defenders of democracy" is a beautiful book in contents and form. Its possession is a joy. The volume is being largely duplicated in the leading libraries. New York public library and all its branches as well as the public schools of the city are making much of its attractive power.

Those who wish to help through purchase the gift book fund may send contributions to the committee in charge, Militia of Mercy, 202 Madison avenue, New York City.

### Food Conservation

WHAT can the library do? The library can do its part by spreading information through distributing books on vegetable gardening,

canning, drying, food conserving, as well as distributing Government pamphlets on timely subjects of interest to the community.

### The War and Secondary Schools\*

For a good many years, our perspective of human knowledge and culture has been greatly askew as a result of German influence. Many of our students have gone to German institutions. Under the spell of German professors they have been led to believe that human learning, culture, and progress were all in the keeping of the German people. Since 1914, these claims have been reviewed. We now know that the claims were grossly exaggerated. It is a good time to review the origins of learning and culture, and fix in our minds the fact that much of it did not come from the Teuton. The period of secondary school life furnishes a fine opportunity for young people to get the correct perspective of human knowledge, progress, and culture. We should take advantage of the opportunity.

It would be an interesting performance in any high school class to assist the young people to make a list of a score of the world revolutionizing inventions and after the list was made to determine the country and the individual responsibility for each. Such a list would doubtless include the steam engine, the electric telegraph, the Atlantic cable, the electric light, the sewing machine, the telephone, the submarine, the phonograph, wireless telegraphy, and the aeroplane. These have all been revolutionary in their effort. Singularly enough, not one of them is credited to a German source.

In the study of physics in the secondary schools, interest will be increased if some of the great contributors to the science are known. In the history of this science, we would certainly include Carnot, founder of modern thermodynamics, Laplace, author of the nebular hypothesis, Foucault, the first demonstrator of the earth's rotation, Becquerel, discoverer of radio activity, Curie, the most fa-

mous worker in radio activity—all Frenchmen; Newton, by common consent the world's greatest scientist, Lord Kelvin, famous for his many inventions and for his work in mathematical physics, Maxwell, founder of the modern mathematical theory of electricity, Thompson, the present greatest worker in radio activity, Rayleigh, the authority in light and sound—all Englishmen; Franklin, noted for his researches in electricity, heat, and meteorology, Henry, father of the modern dynamo, Edison, the world's greatest inventor, Michelson, Noble prize man and authority in optics, and Milliken, next to Thompson, the greatest worker in radio activity—all Americans.

In biology, hygiene, and medicine, many great names occur with which every one should be familiar. In general biology there are Darwin, Wallace, and Lamarck, originators and developers of the idea of evolution. The pioneer in systematic botanical classification was Linneus, a Swede. Some of the great contributors to the perfecting of classification are Tournefort and Antoine de Jussieu, Frenchmen, Robert Brown, an Englishman, and Gray, an American. The mutation theory was originated by DeVries, a Dutchman. Buffon in France, and Huxley in England were the great popularizers of science, particularly zoology. In medicine, Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, Lister, the originator of septic surgery, and Pasteur, the beginner of the fight against germ disease, are names to conjure with.

The great increase in the use of mathematics particularly in its application to the various kinds of engineering and statistics makes this an opportune time to increase interest in this fundamental science. Here as in physics, some knowledge of the men of genius who have developed the science will be interest provoking and inspiring. Early mathematics of the synthetic type was brought to a high

\*From an address before the New England association of colleges and secondary schools.

state of perfection by the Greeks. Mathematics of the analytic type, of inestimable value in practical affairs, is of modern development. Some of the great geniuses responsible for modern mathematics are Newton, Caley, Sylvester, and Hamilton—Englishmen; Fermat, Descartes, Pascal, Fourier, Cauchy, Hermite, Lagrange, Laplace, Legendre, Galois, Darboux, Jordan, Picard, Appell, and Poincaré—Frenchmen.

The subjects I have used are but types of all other subjects of fundamental knowledge and culture. An investigation will show similar conditions in agriculture, chemistry, education, engineering, philology, history, comparative literature, astronomy, philosophy, politics, music, art—indeed in everything of either practical or cultural value.

ROBERT J. ALEY.

President, State university,  
Orono, Maine.

### Books in Foreign Languages

The following question was sent in for a permanent answer: Do you think it aids in the fusion of the foreign elements in this country to let our public libraries spend largely for books in foreign languages so that the immigrant may have literature without learning English?

Much discussion is going on over the country as to the line of procedure with regard to German books. If libraries are to be centers of culture and knowledge, it will be impossible to omit certain collections of German books, but has not the time come when German books for children, at least, should be omitted? And yet one of the authorities in a leading library community says, "We have not stopped the distribution of German books, as we do not think it necessary in our state."

In Minnesota, the Commission is distributing about 5,000 German books, mostly fairy tales, which show a total circulation of 32,000.

### A Familiar Occurrence

The following letter shows a disposition to help that may be the source of future co-operation in other instances as well as this:

Feb. 6, 1918.

Leading Librarians:

Permit me to suggest to half a dozen leading librarians that one weak spot in the modern library is that the large amount of very valuable literature that is sent out in leaflets is not available to the library patrons.

Why not have a binder for several standard sizes of leaflets and several topics such as Child Labor, Prohibition, Women Suffrage, Gambling, War and Peace and have these standard leaflets when they come from reliable societies promptly bound into these adjustable binders, so that interested persons may find the last word in documentary issues at some regular place in the library, preferably among the periodicals.

Respectfully,

WILBUR F. CRAFTS.

One librarian gave the following answer:

Feb. 13, 1918.

Rev. Wilbur P. Crafts, Ph.D.,  
International Reform Bureau, Inc.,  
206 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

It is true that libraries do have difficulty in organizing promptly the flood of pamphlet and minor material that reaches them in these days when a host of uplift and reform organizations, to say nothing of hundreds of individuals, are flooding the country with their pamphlet propaganda.

The difficulty is not so much one of lack of method as lack of help. The plan you propose may be as good as any other, but it involves a considerable overhead expense for an outfit of adjustable binders which would shortly grow to several thousand in a large library and would cost more both in initial expense and in labor of installing the pamphlets than the ordinary expedients for taking care of them, such as vertical files, pasteboard pamphlet cases, etc. It is just as satisfactory from the users' standpoint to find all the pamphlets on prohibition or gambling behind guide cards bearing these headings in a vertical file, or to find them in pamphlet boxes so labeled on the shelves next to the books on the same subjects. The trouble is most libraries are so busy taking care of new books (which you doubtless agree should be handled first) and with taking care of readers insistent to use these new books and magazines, that all too little time is left to organize its pamphlet material.

Very truly yours,

J. I. WYER, JR.

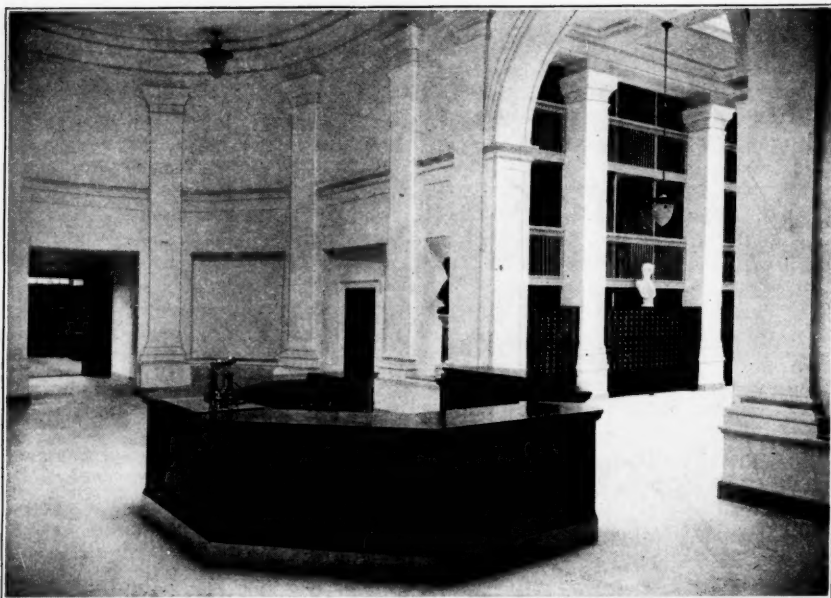
### Notre Dame University Library

Sufficient time has now elapsed since the dedication of the Notre Dame University library, to enable one to pass judgment on its serviceability. This magnificent building of Bedford stone has a frontage of 152 feet and a depth of 158 feet, of the classic Renaissance type that has been so much admired.

The interior of the building has many features that are the cumulative experiences of library planning in recent years. Two reading rooms are provided on the main floor. One on

current files of the magazines. A similar correlation is produced at the south reading room by the proximity of the bibliographical room to that of the general reference room. In this place, provision is made for a subject card index. The equipment supplied here for this purpose is, for the present, two sixty-tray cabinets, besides ample shelving space for more book bibliographies.

The central location of the delivery hall, midway between the two reading rooms, with the cataloging space at the



the south side for encyclopedic and other book reference; the other on the north side for periodical reference, current magazines and newspapers. The location of these rooms, the arrangement of the furniture, the cork carpets, the removal of all traffic in relation to the circulation department, have produced quiet in the reading rooms at all times, a most desirable effect for the student who requires quick power of concentration for his work. In a room adjoining the periodical room, cabinets are provided for keeping the

rear of the desk, has produced a happy result. Patrons who wish to use the loan department only, may do so without disturbing the students in the reading rooms. Overhead lighting is provided here which has proved to be one of the most attractive features of the whole library, from an architectural point of view. At the same time the lay-out in this part of the building has aided the scheme of co-ordinating all related departments. The position of the catalog and stacks, to the right and left, has produced many economies.



The arrangement of the catalog work room and the administration rooms along the rear periphery has procured many facilities that have secured efficiency in both work and management. Verification of records is easily made. On account of the proximity of the public catalog, no official index is needed. The saving in work, equipment, stock, typists, time, space, etc., is significant.

The administration and working departments form a united and compact section of the building. Three suites on three floors, with elevator facilities is the arrangement. In the basement are placed the bindery, unpacking room and receiving room. On the main floor, are the cataloging room, librarian's office and stenographer's room. On the mezzanine floor are found the accession room, classification room, and order room. In the Notre Dame library the arrangement of this section is both horizontal and vertical. The elevator is so placed that it does service for both working rooms and seven tiers of stacks. The capacity of the stacks, located in the center of the building, is 650,000 volumes. The periphery on all four sides is given over to reading rooms, and service departments. In the March number of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, 1916, Mr. Chalmers Hadley, librarian of the Denver public library, gives us the benefit of his observations in library construction, in an article entitled "Tendencies in library architecture." "Another feature," he says, "in our newer buildings, which is increasingly noted is that of placing stacks in the center of the building rather than against one of the exterior walls, usually the rear one. This former arrangement resulted from the expense and insufficiency of artificial light in the stacks and natural light was brought into them at the cost of depriving readers of one-quarter of the light and fresh air which should have been theirs."

"The substitution of Tungsten for carbon lamps, and now nitrogen for the Tungsten, has increased the intensity of artificial light four fold, with

but little, if any increase in expense. Hence, natural light is no longer indispensable to book stacks, as it once was. By placing the stacks in the building's center, the least valuable part of the library structure, a step is taken for greater and more uniform accessibility."

Provision is made for the archives, both of the university and also for the deposits of documents and papers dealing chiefly with Catholic and American history. This department occupies a large vault-like room in the basement. Immediately adjoining is a room used for photographing these documents. There are two large lecture rooms in the basement, one of which is equipped with stereopticon and moving picture machines.

On the front mezzanine floor there are two rooms, one to be used as the exchange department for university publications, the other containing the medical library. The top floor is provided with seminar, study and special collection rooms. The historical museum, art galleries, and Bishop's memorial hall, also are located on this floor. Space has been here provided for these museum collections until a special building can be provided for them.

REV. PAUL J. FOIK, C. S. C.,  
Librarian.

The free public library is distinctively an American institution. No country in the world has opened up branches and democratized the use of books and reading rooms for circulation and research purposes as have we. Commissions come from Europe to study our libraries just as commissions go to England and Germany to study departments in which these countries are most advanced. The free library is one of America's contributions to municipal administration. It, possibly more than any other municipal function, is suggestive of what the American city can do, when free to realize its ideals.—*Frederick C. Howe* in "*The American city and its problems.*"

### Where's What

**A proposed guide to sources of useful information for specialists, investigators, students, collectors and others**

With the rapid growth of knowledge and its diversification without end, all serious investigators and students are confronted by the necessity of having some kind of a general guide, preferably in the form of a "Hand-book," which shall be at least potentially inclusive of the entire range of human knowledge as it exists in the immediate present, and with an eager eye to future developments. Numerous bibliographical references would, of necessity, have to be included, in order to link the knowledge of the past with that of the present and, let us hope, with that of the future as well. It would be quite unnecessary, however, to undertake to duplicate to any considerable extent the bibliographies or other reference-works already published and accessible in the larger libraries. The proposed "Hand-book," therefore, would consist, fundamentally, of a working directory to the specialists and special collections, or, in a word, to those portals which lead from the immediate present to the immediate future as to the whole realm of knowledge both theoretical and practical. It is probable that the greatest emphasis would have to be placed upon the many branches of technology. To say that the accomplishment of such an apparently gigantic task, in its entirety, is absolutely impossible is only to evade the very serious issue by which we are confronted. Let us admit that, whether possible or impossible, the proposed "Hand-book" is needed and would be of great utility. If those directly interested can agree upon that premise, well and good. Then there is hope of real progress being made with the certainty of practical results. There is reason to believe that there are many reference-librarians, specialists and technologists who would be willing to co-operate actively in the collecting and recording of suitable

entries to consist chiefly of the names and addresses of those who possess, and are most likely to be able, under reasonable conditions, to impart useful information in authentic form and up to the minute. It is beside the question to say that those best informed are generally those who are so overcrowded with work as to make it impossible for them to be of direct assistance to others. Again, necessity forces us to deny the impossible. If those specialists or any of them are too busy with other duties to permit them to answer even briefly any queries presented to them by serious students, as will, indeed, often be the case, it may, nevertheless, be found that they can and will suggest the name of some one else, perhaps an understudy, who, for reasonable compensation, will furnish the needed information or suggestion. There will, of course, be exceptions to this, particularly in matters relating to what are commonly called trade-secrets. These exceptions do not disprove the feasibility or utility of the proposed directory. In any event, many non-professional specialists would be included who, upon request, would cheerfully assist any serious student or make useful suggestions to him.

The book could, and no doubt, should be divided into several parts, as follows:

- I. Sponsors for knowledge, specialists.
- II. Seekers of knowledge, investigators and students.
- III. Collectors of scientific specimens, flora, coins, book-plates, etc.
- IV. Analytical index in dictionary form, one alphabet.

The first two parts should each be separately arranged and classified according to the Dewey decimal system.

As is well known, the credit for the original suggestion to compile a list of "Sponsors for knowledge" belongs to George Winthrop Lee, librarian, Stone and Webster, Boston, Mass. A preliminary list of numerous entries was

published in the *Bulletin of the American Library Association* for March, 1916. Additional entries in the same series are being collected by the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, State House, Boston. All that valuable material, which is constantly growing in volume, and much more besides, would be available for inclusion in the directory.

All the public librarians in the country in connection with their new campaign of advertising their facilities, would find it profitable to compile, at least in typewritten form, a "Where's What" in their respective communities. In this way the individual interest would be aroused and redound to the direct benefit of such libraries. The personal equation is often a useful asset which should be capitalized. The ultimate democratization or commonalty of knowledge is something more than a Utopian dream. It is a very practical desideratum.

Not only sponsors but seekers of knowledge are needed and are not easy to find. This was clearly pointed out to the writer by one of the foremost librarians in the United States in some private correspondence. Yet there are countless thousands who want to ascertain some one thing or to pursue a special study, but do not know where to look first for guidance, where to look next, and being unable to find their "orientation," become discouraged. If, on the contrary, there was any one place of registration for initial inquiries, much waste of time would be prevented with consequent conservation of energy.

In connection with the foregoing plans, but not necessarily as an integral part thereof, it has also been suggested that steps be taken to organize an Information Clearing-house of Chicago, perhaps under the general auspices of the American Library Association or, even the American Library Institute; the membership to be divided into several classes.

- (a) Life members paying \$100 at one time,

- (b) Contributing members paying \$25 per year,  
(c) Regular members paying, say, \$5 per year, who would be entitled to receive, without additional charge, one copy of the proposed directory, when published, and also certain privileges of registering specific questions, etc.  
(d) Associate members would be those paying only \$1 per year for which they could register a limited number of questions.  
(e) Corresponding members who would not pay any regular dues, but who would assist in the work.

All moneys received would be devoted to the furtherance of the work undertaken, including the preparation and publication of the directory. The book when published could be sold to non-members for, say \$3 per copy. An important prerequisite would be the adoption of a uniform index-card for all registrations. There should be an advisory board composed of librarians and specialists. The membership should not be confined to residents of Chicago. Means should be provided whereby investigators, students, collectors and others interested in like subjects would be enabled to enter into direct communication with each other. As has been pointed out elsewhere, the correspondence club idea was making good progress in continental Europe before the war.

These few notes may serve as a basis for discussion. The writer would be pleased to hear from others interested.

Eugene F. McPike.

135 East Eleventh Place,  
Chicago.

A new issue of Willcox's French-English military technical dictionary has been put out by the Harpers with a supplement containing recent military and technical terms. Col. Willcox had hearty coöperation from the French government and many French officers in the preparation of his work.

### Russian Books in the Library of Congress

Dr A. Palmieri, who is at present working on the Yudin collection in the Library of Congress, contributed sometime since to the *Washington Post* an account of the Russian books in the library. Unfortunately, said Dr Palmieri, the enormous literary and scientific patrimony of Russia is unknown beyond the Russian frontiers. This is partly due to the difficulties which the Russian language offers and partly to the scarcity of Russian books. The Library of Congress may therefore take a legitimate pride in having filled a gap in the available sources for higher cultural studies in America by the purchase of the most important collection of Russian books outside of Russia. In 1896 the rich collection laboriously gathered by Genadii Vasilyevich Yudin filled eight rooms of his country house in the suburbs of Krasnoirsk in Siberia. Its treasures were already known to bibliophiles. N. N. Bakai, a learned bibliographer, had visited it and expressed admiration for its completeness in a pamphlet entitled "A very important collection of books in Eastern Siberia." He was delighted to find there many of the rarest books of the eighteenth century and separate volumes or complete collections of the most famous Russian periodicals. For example, the collection contains the first series of the *Review of the Ministry of Public Instruction*, 1803-64, which is not to be found outside of Russia except in the Imperial library of Vienna. The most gifted intellects of Russia have assisted in making this official organ an invaluable repertory of elaborate studies and researches in every branch of learning.

Yudin was a devoted amateur of historical research. No wonder then, remarks Dr Palmieri, if among his books we find such precious treasures as the serials entitled "Russian antiquity," "Russian archives," "The historic messenger" and "The lectures of the Society of Russian history and antiquities." An inventory of the admirable studies contained in these collections would re-

veal the scientific working of the Russian mind during the nineteenth century. We know, perhaps, how much Russia has contributed to the literary life of Europe during the nineteenth century but we probably lose sight of the fact that in the strictly scientific and historical fields, Russia numbers many pioneers who have nothing to lose when compared with the giants of scientific progress in other countries.

The most sumptuous section of the Yudin library is the bibliographical one. The collector was himself a learned bibliographer. Of catalogs of public and private libraries, catalogs of archives and of manuscripts, Russian and Slavic paleographical works are so numerous that even Russian scholars would profit by a thorough acquaintance with them. They give us, as it were, an inventory of the wonderful and almost unknown productions of Russian genius and scholarship from the earliest age of Russian national history down to our own days.

Unfortunately the Yudin collection has very little of the material published during the last ten years. "The Yudin library," says Dr Palmieri, "would lose much of its value if in the future it should present only mutilated bodies, which even now are full of vigor and youth."

But it is not only the literary, scientific and political glories of Russia which seem called to exert a far reaching influence on the destinies of Europe. The European war closes possibly the medieval period of the Slavic peoples, and will launch a rejuvenated Russia in the whirlpool of Western civilization and culture. Even the Russian church, the Slavobyzantine orthodoxy will be carried forward in the new alignment of the Russian mind and soul. Russian theologians follow with great interest the religious thought of Europe and America. Dr Palmieri is of the opinion that the best historical and doctrinal handbook of the American Episcopal church has been written by a Russian professor at the Ecclesiastical academy of Kazan and the best analysis of the 39 articles by a pro-

fessor at Kiev. It would therefore seem useful to complete the collections of Yudin by the purchase of the leading organs of Russian religious thought, especially the series of official publications of the theological academies of Petrograd, Moscow, Kiev and Kazan. The addition of these would facilitate the study of Russian orthodoxy which has nursed and fostered Russian piety during long centuries. "We cannot penetrate the Russian soul," says Dr Palmieri in conclusion, "without becoming initiated into the aims and aspirations of the Russian church, and, therefore, a library which does not afford the documents of Russian christianity will not reveal to us the fullness of the mysterious life of the Russian people."

### Library Lectures

A series of lectures by officials of the city government is being given in various branches of the St. Louis public library in explanation of the work of their departments. The talks are planned especially for children in the public schools, but others, including adults, are also invited. The series was opened at the Barr branch by C. M. Talbert, commissioner of streets and sewers, who explained how streets are paved and cleaned, sewers constructed and garbage collected, illustrating his account with lantern-slides. Mr W. E. Roefe, of the Board of public service, spoke at the Cabanne branch on the general construction work of the city, dwelling especially on the Free bridge, the Industrial home, the new Detention home for children, and some of the park structures, such as band stands and swimming pools. Harland Bartholomew, engineer of the City Plan commission, talked at the Carondelet branch on "How to make a greater and more beautiful St. Louis." Talks on the police, fire and park departments will follow in due course, and all the lectures will be repeated at the various branch libraries. The series was arranged by Lucius H. Cannon, librarian of the Municipal reference branch at the City hall.

### Notes on Camp Library Service

Recent appointments for camp library work, not hitherto recorded, are the following:

#### National Guard camps

Beauregard, Alexandria, La., Samuel A. McKillop, librarian.

Bowie, Fort Worth, Tex., I. R. Bundy, librarian.

Fremont, Palo Alto, Cal., Chas. Burbridge, assistant.

MacArthur, Waco, Tex., Glen Ely, assistant.

Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss., Ernest L. Johnson, assistant.

Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss., Mrs Thomas T. Eyre, assistant.

Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C. (at Base Hospital), Ola M. Wyeth, assistant.

Wheeler, Macon, Ga., L. E. Thomas, assistant.

#### National Army camps

Devens, Ayer, Mass., Herbert W. Fison, assistant.

Grant, Rockford, Ill., Truman R. Temple, librarian.

Upton, Yaphank, L. I., Nathan P. Levin, assistant.

#### Other Camps

Military branch, Chattanooga, Tenn., Raymond J. McCoy, assistant.

Kelly Field, near San Antonio, Tex., Harold T. Dougherty, librarian.

#### Naval station

Camp Perry, Great Lakes, Ill., Edward O'Meara, assistant.

Miss Margaret Mann, of the Pittsburgh Carnegie library will spend a month or so, beginning March 12, assisting Mr W. H. Brett in developing the library work for the soldiers and sailors stationed in the vicinity of Norfolk and Newport News and arranging for overseas shipments.

Mrs Amanda Keck and Miss Mildred A. Bates are assisting with the work in the Dispatch office at Hoboken, N. J.

William F. Yust, B.L.S., N. Y. State '01, has been granted a leave of absence until May 1 by the Public library, Rochester, N. Y., to take charge of the A. L. A. camp library at Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C. Mr Yust succeeds George G. Champlin, assistant reference librarian, New York state library, who was obliged to leave because of illness.



Josephine A. Rathbone has been appointed assistant to the Director General.

G. F. Strong is acting executive secretary during Mr Utley's absence at A. L. A. Headquarters, Chicago.

Burton E. Stevenson goes abroad to join Dr Raney in overseas service.

Chalmers Hadley will organize the service along the Mexican border.

Geo. F. Bowerman will take charge at Camp Mead for April and May.

Mr Adam Strohm, librarian of the Detroit Public library, has gone to Camp Gordon, Ga., where he expects to be in charge of the A. L. A. library for two or three months.

The camp librarians of the South-eastern group of camps held a round-table conference in Atlanta, February 28-March 1. Carl H. Milam from the Washington headquarters office of the Library War Service, presided. The following camp librarians were present: Adam Strohm, Camp Gordon; John G. Moulton, Camp Jackson; F. L. D. Goodrich, Camp Greene; Robert P. Bliss, Camp Hancock; George L. Doty, Camp McClellan; Ralf P. Emerson, Camp Sevier; Glenn F. Griffin, Camp Shelby; Louis J. Bailey, Camp Sheridan; William F. Yust, Camp Wadsworth; Frederick Goodell, Camp Wheeler; Lloyd W. Josselyn, Camp Johnston; Charles D. Johnston, Fort Oglethorpe; also C. Seymour Thompson, librarian of the Savannah public library, who has assisted the War Service by visiting and reporting the library needs of a number of the Southern naval stations.

All agreed that the Camp Library Service is big enough to warrant the biggest men in the profession entering it, and that continuous service and responsibility are essential.

A letter was sent out by Mr Stevenson, librarian of Camp Sherman, Ohio, to the editor of every paper published in Ohio and Western Pennsylvania asking that five complimentary copies of each issue of the paper be sent for the use of the men at Camp Sherman. The response was the heartiest possible and for over two months 300 dailies and as many

semi-weeklies and weeklies have arrived at Camp Sherman. What this has meant to the men can not be described.

Close coöperation between the A. L. A. and the Y. M. C. A. is maintained. The latter has worked out a plan to get books across the water. The idea is as follows:

For the men in France, the association has organized distributing stations at all points of embarkation, where books are assorted for shipment abroad. Soon every soldier who steps on a transport will carry a book with him, which he and his companions will read on the way across, after which it will be forwarded to the men back of the trenches. No attempt will be made to establish libraries in France, but the association will have representatives there to supervise the work of distribution.

Not the least of the interesting things which come up in the Camp Library Service is the point of view of the military authorities in relation to the service and purpose of the books going to the camp. In a course of a series of visits by one of the men engaged in the library service a most gratifying approval of the work was often expressed by the military authorities, yet the minor note of indifference, to call it by no stronger term, that sometimes appeared, kept the enthusiasm of the visitor from bubbling over. But it managed to get to the top of the tube by such a letter as the following:

I wish to extend appreciation on behalf of the Thirty-third Division and its officers and enlisted men, for the excellent library recently erected and opened here in Camp Logan.

Mr Wyer, the librarian in charge, has turned the building officially over to the camp and long before this building was erected, both the officers and the men have appreciated the facilities it has offered.

Since the opening of the library and its excellent selection of books, it has become, not alone a popular place for officers and enlisted men as a means of recreation, but also as a place for self-education and I am very pleased to say that the camp, as a whole, is deriving its benefits.

On the other hand a letter, which said that the men had no time for reading and were not interested in that direction, from another officer (of not quite so high rank, to be sure, and probably, therefore, not of quite so



wide a vision), tempered the feeling of the library service.

Sergeant Daniel Casey of Company A, Camp Devens, Mass., wrote:

Could the people at home have seen the impatience and pleasure with which the men gathered about when the books were being unpacked they would feel amply repaid for their generosity. In behalf of the men of Co. A, I wish to thank all who have aided in the splendid array of books which we have here.

The drive for books in St. Louis in the week of March 18 was conducted in conjunction with a drive made by the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and other organizations for recreational material. Publicity and solicitation work was done jointly.

In connection with an incident where a recruiting officer refused to forward books to the camp, for what he called lack of authority, the Headquarters at Washington has issued a statement as a matter of general information, that if the librarian will insist that the recruiting officer handle these books, showing at the same time the printed authority, he can usually be prevailed upon to send a telegram to Washington and such a telegram always brings the desired result.

Word has come from General Pershing saying that space will be reserved in the sailings of every month for 50 tons of reading matter. That means at least 100,000 books a month.

The 37 libraries in the big camps need from 10,000 to 40,000 books each. There are nearly 300 comparatively small camps, posts, forts and stations which need from a few hundred to several thousand volumes each.

The daily demand for military, naval, technical and educational books is overwhelming. Nearly 300,000 have been purchased but there is a great need for 2,000,000 gift books. The need of books can not be too strongly stated. On the file at headquarters are letters from scores of officers commending the work. Thousands of enlisted men are bearing witness to its value.

#### Camp Gordon, Ga.

We have about 5,000 volumes at the main library, two-thirds of which are books on history, engineering and a great number of military manuals. There is really a great deal of earnest studying going on; privates are keeping up their old interests and a great number are "boning" for promotion and examinations.

We have requests for Ruskin's essays, for books on motorcycles, bridge building, books on camp sewage, on care of mules, and we feel like asses of course, as many times we have no books on the subject and have to serve very makeshift information.

We have army patronage only, privates and officers. The boys are businesslike rather than soldierlike. War is an established fact and the military problem is in the hands of Washington. In the meanwhile the soldiers are exercising American common sense and try to get all they can out of the army life.

They are "plugging" for better jobs, and many strike into new lines, full of interest and preparing for better chances on return to civil life.

All are good-natured, and even if not fighting, mad and noisy, still learning all the tricks of the game and ready to "go in."—(*Extracts from report to the Detroit library commission by Adam Strohm.*)

#### Camp Logan, Tex.

Camp Logan is a tent camp, the home of the Illinois National Guard, and is a city of about 33,000 men. It is located in the midst of a beautiful pine forest, about five miles from Houston, Texas. The camp streets form a triangle and so, instead of one long, straight stretch, the camp is comparatively compact, and distances are not great. The health and sanitary conditions were very carefully guarded and we were most fortunately free from illness. There were only ten deaths from illness from August until February 5.

I reached the camp about November 20, and found approximately 4,000 books in use in the various Y. M. C. A. buildings, mostly A. L. A. books. As I was entirely ignorant of camp life, routine, regulations, etc., I gave up the first two weeks completely to familiarizing myself with these things. I lived in the busiest Y. M. C. A. building, took my meals with the enlisted men, and during the evenings I spent my time near

the book shelves, talking with the men, hunting for books, suggesting books to some, and securing information as to what books were wanted, how much time the men had for reading, the desire for better reading facilities, etc. During the day, I studied the camp, location of the various regiments, visited all parts of the camp with newspaper men, learned which officials I would be brought most in contact with, studied the population about the various Y. M. C. A. buildings, and made the acquaintance of the Y. M. C. A. and K. of C. officials, chaplains, etc.

I sent for more books at once, and also reported all I could learn as to the permanency of the camp.

At the end of the first two weeks I began the work of organizing the collections in the Y. M. C. A. buildings, and installed a uniform charging system in each building, using supplies made and printed locally. This was warmly welcomed by the Y. M. C. A. secretaries, as the system was much simpler and better than the ones they had been using.

Before this was finished, books began to arrive from Kansas City, St. Louis, and Denver. My request for the temporary services of some men with library experience was refused by the military authorities; but I succeeded in having eight alien enemies assigned to assist me. I started them to work, stamping, labelling, and pocketing the books, but was not able to teach them to write the book cards. Just as they were making good headway with the books a school for gas instruction came to share with me the only building in camp available for us, and as the English officers giving the instruction objected to the presence of my aliens, I was forced to send them home. This proved to be a difficult matter, as several of the men belonged to companies digging trenches, and they much preferred my work, and came back for several days to insist on working. Next I got "details" of prisoners and struggled through several days with men working under an armed guard. The results were not very successful, and I called for volunteers from the enlisted men interested in a library. Twelve volunteered, but only one appeared for work, so I engaged five high school boys during their Christmas vacation. Later I secured permission to share an officers' mess shack and used it as a work room, and here I again put some aliens to work, with excellent results. I was thus able to have nearly all of the books which we had received ready for circulation when our building was finished. I arranged for three aliens to do the janitorial work in the library and also to do the pasting, labelling, etc. I did not vary the technical work much from practices already outlined elsewhere, but I did number with an automatic numbering ma-

chine all of the books in the central library, thus distinguishing each book with an individual number.

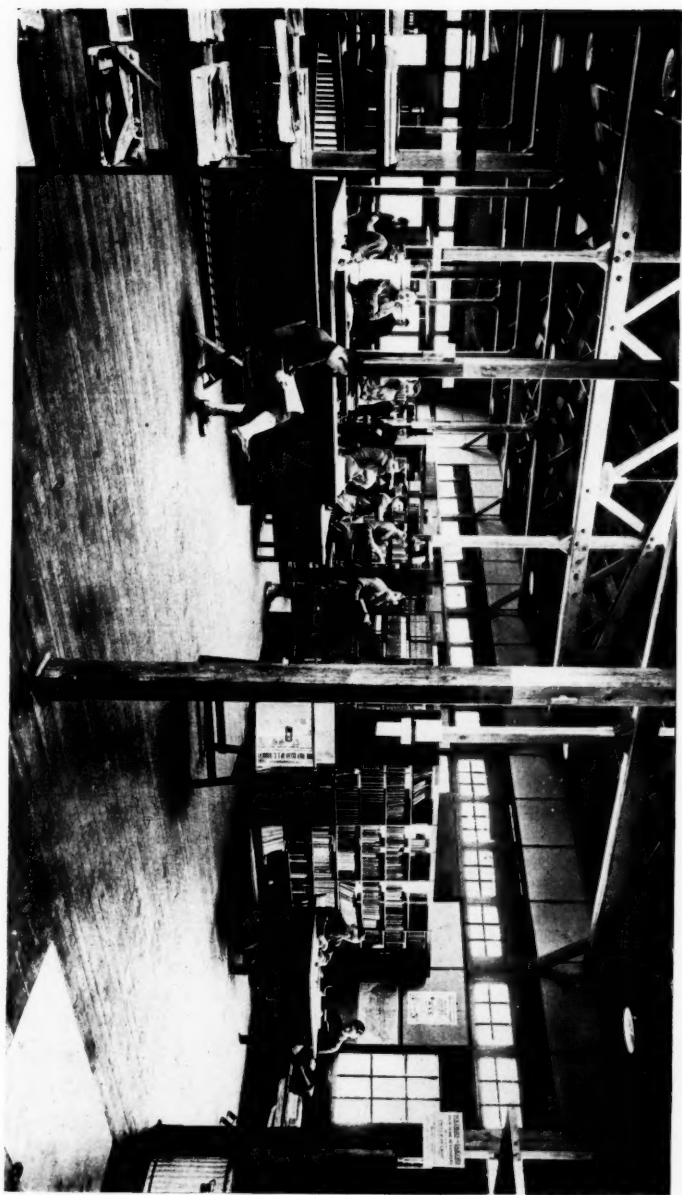
Work on our building began on January 1, and we were fortunate in being authorized to include a large fireplace and a roomy screen porch. The building was finished in every detail on January 26. We moved in the furniture and the books, put up the wall maps and some exhibits, and had everything in perfect order for an inspection by General Bell on January 27, at noon. We opened the building January 28. I decided to make the formal opening a strictly business and military affair instead of a social function. Accordingly, I invited General Bell and staff and the commanding officers of all organizations in camp to visit the library at five p. m., January 29. General Bell accepted, and issued an order which resulted in the attendance of practically all the leading officers in camp. I briefly explained the purpose of the A. L. A. and the aims for which the camp library was established, and General Bell urged all present to use every means possible to call the attention of their officers and men to the library. The popular notion of a camp library among the officers was a miscellaneous collection of cheap fiction and out-of-date books, and when they examined the library and saw what we really had, they were very much interested, as they at once realized the great service the library could perform for the camp. This form of opening was most successful, and was, I believe, the best way to impress the commanding officers with the value of a library in a military camp and to enlist their enthusiastic interest and support.

The library building was crowded from the opening day, and except the Y. W. hostess house, it is the only building freely used by both officers and men. It seemed a marvel to the camp that such an attractive building and such a strong collection of books could have been so quickly provided. One man said, "I take off my hat to the American Library Association for the high grade of books supplied." During the first few days, nearly everyone who came in stopped to say how much he appreciated the facilities offered by the library. One man said to me, "Gee, you ain't got enough fireplaces. I couldn't get my regular chair tonight." Our library building offers home-like and comfortable surroundings not available to the soldiers anywhere else, but, of course, in so large a camp, we can care for only a small percentage of those interested in such advantages.

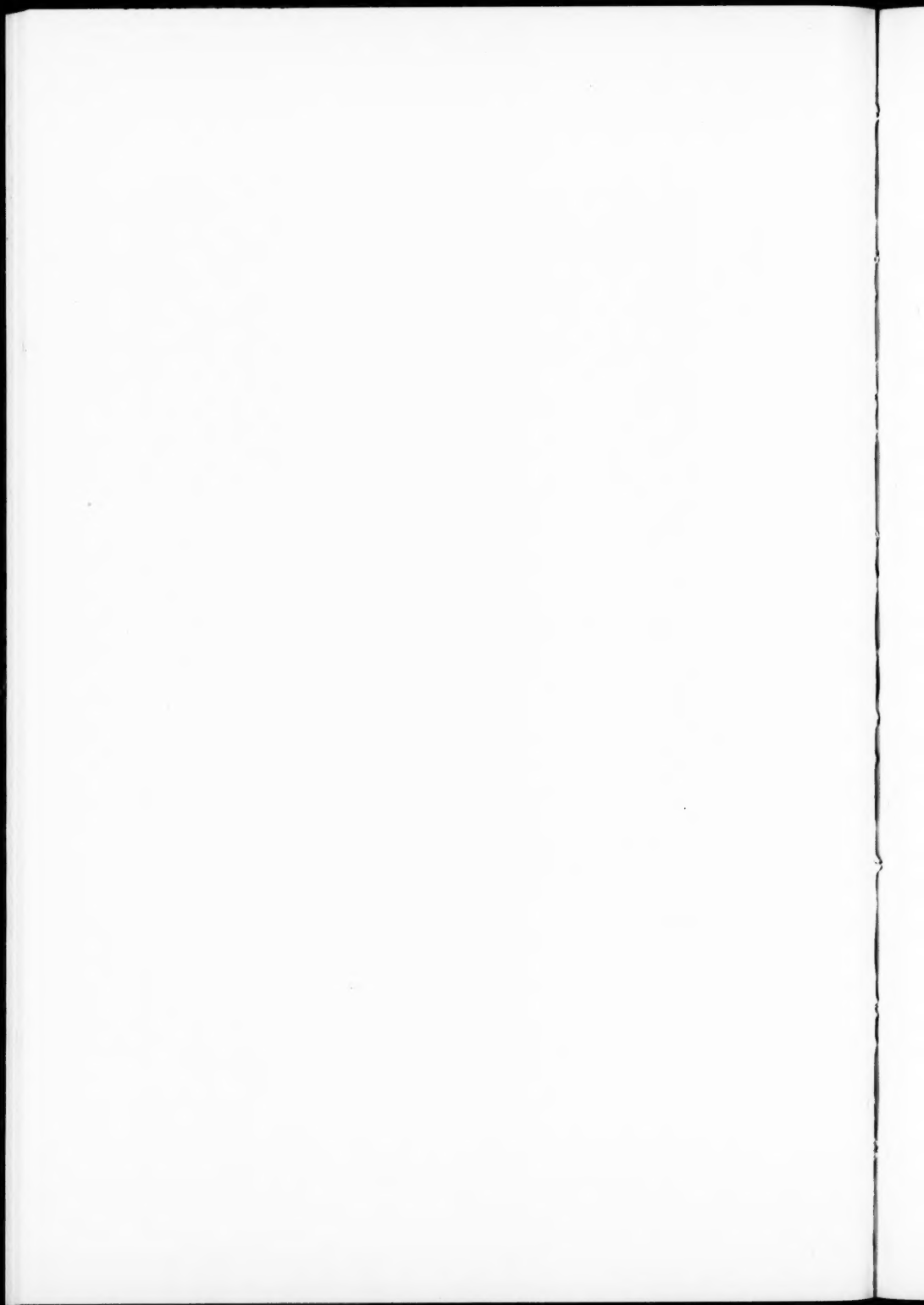
MALCOLM G. WYER.

#### Camp Meade, Md.

But the gem of the camp is the reading room or library at Merritt hall. It is tastefully, though inexpensively, furnished with chairs, tables, and desks, a piano, a phono-



Library at Great Lakes Training Station, Illinois.



graph, some pretty lamps, rows upon rows of books—good books—and a fireplace. The latter is large and cosy, and the fire is kept alight even when there is no need for warmth, because of the atmosphere of good cheer and friendliness which it creates.

The soldiers can choose their reading matter at will from the many books which have been given to the camp, and need only leave with the librarian their names and the names of the books they wish to take back to barracks with them. If they embark at short notice, as is usually the case, the soldiers in each barrack pile their library books near the door and the librarian's assistants gather them up from the deserted rooms after the boys have sailed.

#### Camp Zachary Taylor, Ky.

Before recent additions were made to Camp Zachary Taylor the shape of the camp was roughly that of a triangle, and the location of the camp library is admirable with reference to the rest of the camp, being near the apex and directly across the street from the theater and post office. This proximity to the theater means that large numbers of the men drop in directly after supper to read and later go to the show, while after this is over another considerable crowd come over and read till closing time. The more distant sections of the camp are, of course, supplied by the Y. M. C. A. and K. of C. branches, and particular effort is being taken to see that each of these receives a fair percentage of the duplicate copies of the best books in the library while daily deliveries are being made of special books that the men request. Several of the secretaries are giving the library effective advertising, both through placards and the movies.

This camp is only about five miles from the heart of Louisville, a fact materially affecting the use of the library on the half holidays and Sundays, as the city is easily accessible by trolley and jitney service and very hospitable arrangements have been made for entertaining the men while in town, two large clubs having been opened especially for this purpose. So while in many of the camps the libraries have their heaviest work on these holidays, at the Camp Taylor library the reverse is the case, although of course there are a large number of casual visitors, many of the men taking pride in bringing their friends just to show how well equipped the camp is as to book service.

Universal law violated takes the same penalty from the honest as from the dishonest. There is no mercy at the court of eternal fact.—*Nolan R. Best.*

#### Food Values Exhibit

##### Public library, Oak Park, Illinois

A graphic exhibit of food values was held in the Oak Park public library January 22-26, 1918. The library, the high school and the Patriotic and Defense committee co-operated in its production. The exhibit was designed to show the elements of the diet, the proper proportion of the different classes of foodstuffs in the day's dietary, and the possible substitutes for wheat, meat, fats and sugar.

The first section, showing the elements of the diet, was illustrated by placards giving the divisions of foodstuffs and the part each plays in the diet. This was followed by the plastic exhibit of 100-calorie portions of foods owned and loaned by the Library publicity section of the State Food administration. This exhibit had been shown in part at the Chicago food show, and it attracted much interest. Next was a show case containing three shelves on which were shown a day's meals for an average man, selected on a pre-war basis. On each shelf was also shown a substitute for the wheat, meat, fats and sugar which had been used in the original menu. The contents of this case were planned and prepared by the Domestic Science department of the high school. The menu and substitutions follow:

##### The menu

###### Dinner

Mashed potatoes (100 calories)  
1 pork chop (100 calories); substitute, bean and nut loaf, with tomato sauce.  
Bread (100 calories); substitute, rice muffins.  
Butter (100 calories); substitute, nut margarine.  
Cabbage (100 calories).  
Tomato salad (76 calories).  
Fruit gelatine with cream (220 calories).

###### Luncheon

Macaroni (200 calories).  
2 Slices rye bread (100 calories).  
Tablespoonful butter (100 calories).  
Pea and celery salad (75 calories).  
Prune pie made with rye flour and vegetable shortening (250 calories).  
Cheese (100 calories).  
(No substitutes required except for butter.)

###### Breakfast

1 Orange (100 calories).  
Oatmeal (100 calories).



Cream, quarter cup (100 calories).

Sugar (50 calories).

2 Slices toast (100 calories); substitute, cornmeal muffins.

2 Slices bacon (200 calories); substitute, egg.

1 Tablespoonful butter (100 calories); substitute nut margarine.

With any meal coffee and cream may be served without affecting the food value greatly.

Two tables contained groups of substitutes for each of the four groups of foodstuffs necessary to our armies. These were all in package form, and were loaned by a local grocery. The groups were not supposed to be complete, but merely suggestive of the foods which might be used as substitutes.

There were also two cases with various kinds of liberty breads, baked by housewives of the village, and plainly marked with the proportions of other flours used as a partial substitute for the white flour; and a case containing a number of conservation recipes, which were prepared by the high school students.

The library was represented by its collection of books and pamphlets on food and conservation, and many of these were circulated during the week; there were also pamphlets provided by the Food Administration for free distribution. Much interest was shown in the exhibit. Several housewives aided in presiding over the room and answering questions, which were many and various. The members of the library staff each gave an afternoon for this purpose.

There was very little trouble and expense connected with the exhibit, and the interest shown in it was very gratifying.

According to the *Official Bulletin*, 30,000 letters from the American troops were lost on the Andania which was sunk off the coast of Ireland the latter part of January. These letters were written by the soldiers between January 15 and 20. A small quantity of parcel post matter was also lost. There are doubtless those who missed expected letters at that time.

### A. L. A. Ambulance Fund

The chairman in charge of this fund, realizing that the concentration of library support for the national camp library movement made the full execution of her plan impossible, has decided to close the matter. She has therefore sent to the American Red Cross at Washington, D. C., \$750 to provide a kitchen trailer as the gift of the American Library Association, with a request that a statement to that effect and the receipt for the money be sent to the secretary of the American Library Association.

Theresa Hitchler,  
Chairman.

### American Library Institute

A meeting of the Institute was held in the parlors of the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, February 16, 1918.

The morning session opened at 10 o'clock with President E. C. Richardson in the chair and the following Fellows present: Miss M. E. Ahern, C. W. Andrews, W. Austen, C. F. D. Belden, R. R. Bowker, W. L. Brown, W. N. C. Carlton, W. P. Cutter, J. C. Dana, Miss T. Hitchler, M. Jastrow, Jr., A. Keogh, H. L. Koopman, W. Lichtenstein, G. B. Utley, L. N. Wilson. The meeting being an open one, from 15 to 20 visitors were also present during the session.

Miss Amy L. Reed, librarian of Vassar college, summarized her paper on "A graduate school of librarianship\*," and Mr Frederick C. Hicks discussed the question, "Where shall university, college and reference library assistants be trained?" In the general discussion following the reading of these papers, Dr Richardson stated that Miss Reed's suggestion of a committee to study and report on the general subject of the higher education of librarians had been adopted by the Board of the Institute and that such a committee would be appointed. Dr Lichtenstein urged that there should be no essential difference

\*In print for *Proceedings*.

between the graduate training of librarians and of students pursuing the usual course of training for a Ph. D. degree. He also warned that serious thought must be given to the problem of suitable positions for persons so trained, carrying adequate salaries and work likely to attract such specialists. Mr Austen deplored a certain tendency in university faculties to refuse to accept bibliography as a topic suitable to be counted towards the Ph. D. degree.

W. P. Cutter called attention to the plan for a course of library study drawn up some years ago at Georgetown university, Washington, D. C. Mr Dana in a few trenchant words pointed out that the essential thing was first to get people with a high average of brain power, "and when we have discovered them, then train them for advanced library work in the kind of graduate school that appears to be wanted."

Under the title of "A manuscript travesty of the Iliad," Dr Koopman of Brown university described an interesting manuscript folio volume in the Harris collection of American poetry, containing "A burlesque translation of Homer's Iliad, with notes," written by Chancellor William Kilty of Maryland. Dr Koopman also exhibited a book printed by Aldus in 1500, all of whose pages save four were of excellent quality paper, white as when published. Four, however, were obviously of much inferior quality and had become stained dark brown. "If the whole book had been printed on the poorer paper," said Dr. Koopman, "it would not have been in existence now. But how did these few pages chance to be included with the better stock?"

The afternoon session was opened by President Richardson's delivering his presidential address on "The War service of libraries of learning." Other topics on the program were:

1. Censorship, with contributions by S. H. Ranck, V. H. Paltsits, B. C. Steiner and J. C. M. Hanson.

2. Collection and care of material on the war, with contributions to discussion from J. C. Dana, V. H. Paltsits, L. N. Wilson, J. C. M. Hanson and Waldo G. Leland.
3. Colored-band method of filing war pamphlets, by J. C. Dana.
4. Special joint lists.
  - a. Current European newspapers for the National Board for Historical Service.
  - b. War literature.
  - c. Bibliographies of live subjects (e. g., Ukrania, Armenia).

Animated discussion followed the talk by Mr Dana on "A Colored-band method of filing war pamphlets," and Mr L. N. Wilson's description of the book collections on the Great War now being gathered by Clark university and other libraries. Mr Wilson urged that steps be taken to urge the National government to establish both a war library and a war museum following the example of the British, French, and German governments who had been actively gathering material for such national collections from the beginning of the War.

On motion by Dr Jastrow it was voted that the matter of bringing the subject of the establishment of a national war collection and museum to the attention of the proper authorities be referred to the Board of the Institute.

Dr Richardson summed up the last topic on the programme in the following statement: "After discussing the matter thoroughly with librarians and scholars, it appears that the most concrete thing libraries can do is to prepare for their readers select bibliographies on the problem areas, such as Alsace-Lorraine, and the Institute Board recommends this to libraries as a fundamental form of service.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p. m.

An interested group asking questions surrounded Mr Dana's exhibit of the color scheme at the close.

W. N. C. CARLTON,  
Secretary.

### Atlantic City Meetings

The twenty-second annual meeting of the Pennsylvania library club and the New Jersey library association has been, and in this ever changing, rapid-fire history-making day of ours, no doubt, is forgotten by many.

The unavoidable absence (on account of war service for the Government) of our president was a disappointment, but Dr Jastrow filled the chair very successfully. In a few words, he opened the session, calling attention to the wonderful opportunity librarians have of assisting, and helping both the Government and the people during this time of stress.

Wilfrid M. Voynich gave a delightful talk on "How to study and how to hunt fifteenth century books." Mr Voynich says that "briefly speaking, the literature on fifteenth century books can be divided into two groups. From later fifteenth century down to 1870 and 1880, with the exception of some very elaborate lists used by Hain and Panzer and a few others, it is practically without any use to the modern student of history of printing. It consisted of anecdotes on the beauty and rarity of certain fashionable works. The real scientific literature on the subject starts only from the time when some librarians and historians applied natural history methods to the study of incunabula. During the last 30 years the numerous works on the subject not only covered the whole ground but it created from haphazardly collected information a complete picture of history and the development of printing during the fifteenth century. Unfortunately, they limited themselves to the study of the printer, omitting the study of the author, and the result is that while we know every water mark and every variety of the types improved by the printers during that period, a vast amount of the literature produced remains entirely unknown. The greatest specialists on the history of medicine, astronomy, education and philosophy cannot tell how many works were printed in the fifteenth cen-

tury on questions of interest to them, and we feel a great need of filling up this gap in the history of culture of late renaissance. What is required is a systematic investigation of the texts; and Mr Voynich has suggested that this scholarly work is most suitable for the educated American girl. It requires a knowledge of languages, but it also requires a keen perception and power of observation, and this kind of work is usually done better by women than men.

Mr A. Edward Newton read a paper entitled "A Macaroni parson," taking the life of an eighteenth century clergyman of the Church of England as his subject, saying, "It will not I think be doubted by those who have given the subject any attention that religious affairs in England in the eighteenth century were at a very low ebb indeed. Carlyle, as was his habit, called this century some hard names, but some of us are glad occasionally to steal away from our cares and forget our present "efficiency" in that century of "leisure." Mr Newton gave a most interesting resumé of the life of "William Dodd" by name, who was called "A Macaroni parson." "Mr Dodd was born in Lincolnshire in 1729, and was himself the son of a clergyman." Dodd wrote a number of books, one, in two small volumes, of quotations which he called "Beauties of Shakespeare." He was the first to make the discovery that a book of quotations, digested under proper heads, would have a ready sale." Mr Newton has a number of the letters written by Dodd to Dr Johnson, also those of Dr Johnson to Dodd. Mr Newton's description of the life of Dodd was intensely interesting.

The meeting of the New Jersey section, on Saturday morning, was of great interest to all, dealing as it did with the vital interests of the day.

I think we were all quite willing to even be deprived of the pleasure of knitting as requested by Captain Rudd, in our intense interest in his description of the work of the "American Red Cross in Russia."

Miss Guerrier's animated talk about her work as a member of the Massachusetts State Library publicity committee for Food Conservation was intensely interesting, as well as full of splendid suggestions for librarians as to how we may assist the Governments by distributing literature, etc.

Dr F. P. Hill presided in his usual genial and happy manner at the last meeting, and Dr F. L. Montgomery gave a report on what has been accomplished by the A. L. A. in war time, after which the paper by Dr John Duncan Spaeth on the life and writings of Walt Whitman, given in Dr Spaeth's own inimitable style, brought the twenty-second annual meeting of the two associations to a close.

In deference to the serious thought of the times the usual dance always held at the close of the sessions was omitted.

JEAN E. GAFFEN.

### Coming Meetings

Announcement is made that the Illinois library association will hold its annual meeting in Peoria, October 10 and 11. Headquarters will be at the Jefferson hotel.

The next meeting of the Chicago library club will be held April 11. Mr Geo. B. Utley will give the address. "A welcome home" will be given him at the close.

### Librarian Wanted

At Bloomingdale hospital, White Plains, N. Y., the general library has been established in new and attractive quarters, and a better organization and development of the library as a positive force in the work and cultural life of the hospital has been made possible by the change. A librarian who will be interested in the task and opportunities presented is desired. The conditions are similar to those at McLean hospital, Waverly, Mass., where Miss Kathleen Jones has been able to build up a work of great value. Applicants may address the Medical Superintendent at White Plains, N. Y.

### Library Schools

#### California state library

On February 26, the class had the pleasure of listening to two lectures by Miss Lutie E. Stearns, who has been on a lecture tour in the west. One lecture was on The rise and fall of the modern magazine, a subject of special interest at the present time. The other lecture, The librarian, the library and education, brought out the possibilities for good of the library in any community.

On February 19, Miss Katherine P. Ferris, librarian of the Kings County free library, spoke to the class on the progress and development of the work in Kings County.

The course in children's literature given by Miss Eleanor Hitt has been completed.

On February 27, Miss Winona McConnell, '15, was married to Dr John E. Kennedy, at her home in Elk Grove.

#### Carnegie library of Atlanta

Miss Gertrude Stiles, supervisor of binding, Cleveland public library, gave her regular course of lectures on binding during the week of February 11. On the afternoon of Friday, February 15, Miss Stiles lectured on fine book bindings, using her collection of slides to illustrate the lecture.

Mrs Edna Lyman Scott gave her course of lectures on children's work from February 18—March 2. Mrs Scott gave a story telling recital on the afternoon of the 28th. This was the day on which the Camp librarians of the Southeastern states were holding a conference in Atlanta and the school had the pleasure of having some of the librarians present at the recital while others came in later for tea.

TOMMIE DORA BARKER,  
Director.

#### Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh.

Special lecturers for the month were Miss Lutie E. Stearns of Wisconsin, who gave three lectures March 12 to 13, on "The problem of the book for the adolescent girl," "The library and its relation to present day problems" and "Why a librarian?" and the Hon-

orable James Francis Burke, State director for Western Pennsylvania, National War Savings committee, who spoke upon War Savings stamps.

Mr Caspar Carl Certain, head of the department of English, Cass high school, Detroit, lectured March 12 to students in the School Library course on "What the English teacher expects of the library," and "School libraries south of the Mason and Dixon line."

Margaret Bateman, '08-09, was married, February 21, to Sherman R. Ramsdell. At home cards announce Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Blanche L. Dodds, '16-17, was married to Lloyd G. Lyman, March 6.

Helen Jackson, '11-12, was married to Hendrik Brusse, February 15, 1918.

Esther D. Porter, '19, was married in Pittsburgh, February 22, to Harry Bliss, Jr. Mrs Milton Ronsheim, '14-16, is engaged in library work at Camp Chillicothe, Ohio.

#### Los Angeles public library

Miss Lutie Stearns talked to the school on February 20 on "The library as a social factor in the community" and "The rise and fall of the modern magazine."

Miss Sarah M. Jacobus, librarian of the Pomona public library, presented some ideas on library service from a fresh viewpoint in a talk on "Cues from business men."

Miss Mabel Haines was another February visitor. Her talk on "The library's relation to social betterment" was especially valuable since she has the point of view of the library as well as that of the social worker.

C. C. Parker supplemented the course in publishing houses with a most interesting talk in which he summarized the work of some of the younger firms.

Charles E. St. John of the Mount Wilson Solar Observatory talked on American learned societies and their publications.

The selection of religious literature for a public library was the subject of a talk by Dr Carl S. Patton.

Miss Adelaide Hasse's visit was of special interest because of her early connection with the Los Angeles public library. She lectured to students and members of the library staff at an eight

o'clock staff meeting, after which members of the Alumni association held an informal reception in the class room.

Miss Marguerite Cameron, Riverside, '16, and formerly librarian of the Uinta County library, Evanston, Wyoming, has been accepted as a special student for the remainder of the school year.

Miss Florence Elsey was married in New York City on February 8 to John Philip Storck. Mrs Storck is one of the many librarians now engaged in war service and she expects to continue her work in New York.

Miss Gladys Hanna, '17, has resigned her position in the Long Beach public library to accept an appointment as index and catalog clerk in the War department.

#### New York public library

For the current year there has been adopted for the course in practical work a plan whereby students are given assignments of two full weeks at the opening of the second semester, and of one day per week thereafter. Reports so far received seem to indicate that this has advantages for the student, for the school, and for the libraries in which practical work is done, although the fact that the fuel shortage forced the temporary closing of a large number of the branches of the New York public library in February meant that all concerned labored under abnormal conditions.

Series of lectures have been conducted recently by Andrew Keogh, Isadore G. Mudge, and Effie L. Power. In connection with his tour to eastern library schools, W. O. Carson, inspector of public libraries for the Department of Education of Ontario, gave an address descriptive of library conditions in Ontario.

ERNEST J. REECE, Principal.

#### Pratt institute

Since Washington does not invite the transient traveller, the spring trip this year has been diverted to a new direction. We are planning to visit the libraries of the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys.

Five more stars have been added to our alumni service flag:

Mary V. Bolton, '03, is doing reconstruction work in France under the Red Cross.

Anna M. Neuhauser, '15, is an assistant at Camp Hancock.

Truman R. Temple, '16, has been drafted into camp library work.



Margaret J. Guerini, '17, is at work in the Ordnance department.

Ruth McKinstry, '17, has been called from the Osterhout free library to camp library headquarters in Washington to assist in the book ordering.

Muriel Schabacker, '17, has received an appointment in the Quartermaster General's department.

The Vice-Director has been asked to take charge of the personnel of the camp library service during the executive secretary's six weeks' leave of absence from Washington. Her time will be adjusted so that she will spend three days in Washington and three days in Brooklyn each week.

A pleasant feature of the recent visit of Mr W. O. Carson, Inspector of public libraries of Ontario, to the two library schools was a dinner given him by the Council of the New York library club at the Cosmopolitan club in New York City.

Mr Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale university, gave his annual lecture on March 5 on the problems of the college library. Miss Mary E. Hall, librarian of the Girls' high school, spoke on March 12 on high school library work.

As for several years past, the school enjoyed recently the opportunity of a visit to the Morgan library. Miss Greene and Miss Thurston had the tables covered with rare and interesting books and took down from the shelves in answer to requests many treasures new and old.

Word has been received of the marriage, December 19, of Grace A. Cooper, who has been on the staff of the Iowa state library since her graduation in 1907, to Frank Briggs of Webster City, Iowa.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage on January 27 of Estelle M. Campbell, '15, to Prof William Campbell of Columbia university.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

Riverside, Cal.

The Riverside library service school closed a very successful session March 2. The teachers and lecturers were as follows:

Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, St. Louis public library.

Mrs Ida Mendenhall Beseler, formerly of New York State normal school at Geneseo, now of Anaheim, Calif.

Miss Alice M. Butterfield, Riverside public library.

Mr E. P. Clarke, president, California state board of education.

Joseph F. Daniels, Riverside public library.

Miss Lillian L. Dickson, Riverside public library.

Mr Lyman Evans, district attorney, Riverside.

Mrs Mabel Frances Faulkner, Riverside public library.

Miss Adelaide Hasse, chief, Documents division, New York public library.

Miss Margaret Mann, head cataloger, Carnegie free library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Lieutenant Geo. E. Price, Military instructor, Polytechnic high school, Riverside, Calif.

W. Elmo Reavis, head of Pacific Library Binding Co., Los Angeles.

There were 17 students who received certificates. Of these 9 were from California; 3 from Idaho; 2 from Iowa; 2 from Texas and 1 from Montana.

This is the smallest class in attendance ever held but we are at war and the whole western country feels it very much indeed.

It is estimated that two or three thousand aviators, ground men, mechanics, etc., will be near here in the Government aviation school, before summer. The officials engaged in selecting the site have considered among other things submitted to them, the use of the Riverside public and county free library. There will undoubtedly be a branch established at the aviation camp. This influx of a small army of aviators will mean a most emphatic influence upon the library's book purchases which means another cruel cut into fiction funds, and another very decided step forward in the reorganization of the library on a war basis.

Winifred Woods, '16-17, long course, has been employed as librarian at National City public library.

Lilla B. Dailey, '15-16, long course, and for the past two years librarian at National City public library has been appointed to a position with the Ordnance department at Washington, D. C.

Nelle Sanford, '14-15, long course, for the past two years cataloger at Bakersfield public library has been employed as index and catalog clerk in the

New War Risk Insurance bureau, Washington, D. C.

The Riverside library school had undertaken plans to give special training to students to fit them for camp librarians. On the announcement of the course several candidates presented themselves. Mr J. F. Daniels, who had the matter in charge, wished to have the school recognized as sanctioned by the A. L. A. Committee at Washington. The Committee felt that it was not in a position to extend its approval to the effort and so the matter is held in abeyance for the present. Mr Daniels is of the opinion that the service in the camp libraries in the United States is a problem not yet solved.

#### Simmons college

Mr J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., and Mr John A. Lowe, contributed much to the course in Library buildings, and Mr Carson gave a vivid impression of the work of Ontario libraries.

Miss Anne Carroll Moore was a welcome visitor at the "Exchange" hour, contributing her bit by showing some of the good results which had been a by-product of the recent fuel emergency in the New York library branches.

In the High school library course, Miss Frances Bickford, of the Bridgeport high school library, Miss Margaret Kneil, of the Somerville high school, and Miss Eaton, librarian of the Lincoln school, gave us of their experience.

A visit was made, March 1, to the Widener library, and on April 13 it is planned to visit the A. L. A. library at Camp Devens.

The usual summer classes in library work will be held during the six weeks from July 8 to August 16.

The Massachusetts library commission will hold its annual three day conference at Simmons college during the summer session, a feature which adds much to the interest of the six weeks.

#### Positions

Ida Adams, '08-'13, circulation department, Seattle, Washington, public library.

Anita Allen, '11-'15, returned to Simmons College library after organizing the Niles library at North Jay, Maine.

Lucy Church, '04-'08, 1st class clerk, personnel division, Ordnance Department, Washington, D. C.

Catherine Cummins, '07-'12, resigned position at Woodstock Branch, New York Public library, to be with her sister.

Annis Kane, '06-'10, cataloger, Pennsylvania State college.

Helen Luitweiler, '10-'11, cataloger, Radcliffe College library, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Helen Ruggles, '13-'17, filing, Western Electric Co., Engineering Department, New York.

Katharine Warren, '10-'14, special work on United States historical pamphlets, Harvard college, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Margaret Wood, '13-'17, librarian, Stoneham, Massachusetts, Public library.

Laura Stealey, Simmons, '11-'12, of the Seattle, Washington, Public library, died at Seattle, February 28, 1918.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,  
Director.

#### Western Reserve university

At present the school is especially interested in the war service work of the American Library Association and several members of the faculty have been or are actively engaged in it. Mr Brett, dean of the school, and Miss Tyler are in library war service at the A. L. A. Dispatch offices. Two other members of the faculty, Mr Strong and Mr Vitz, have recently returned from camp library work—Mr Strong from Camp Bowie, Texas, and Mr Vitz from Camp Sherman, Ohio. On February 15 they gave very interesting accounts of their experiences in camp. Miss Tyler attended the meeting of the Association of American library schools in Atlantic City, February 15-16.

Professor A. S. Root of the Oberlin College library is giving his course on the "History of the printed book." A brief series of lectures on school management is being given by members of the Cleveland public library staff: Miss Martha Wilson, librarian, Woodland branch, discussing the State supervision of school libraries; Miss Annie S. Cutter, supervisor of Grade school libraries, the management of such libraries, and Miss Bessie Sargeant-Smith, supervisor of High school libraries, the type of book selection and general policy of high school libraries. Other members of the

Cleveland public library staff have discussed the following subjects: Miss Mary R. Cochran, head of the Sociology division, "Books of sociology," and Miss Annie P. Dingman, head of the foreign division, "Americanization," tracing the history of the movement and the present aims. Professor C. C. Arbuthnot, of Western Reserve university, spoke on the book selection problems connected with materials in economics.

The students have had the advantage of hearing lectures and informal talks by the following out-of-town speakers: Mr J. H. Dice, of the Ohio library commission, "Ohio library extension"; Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, "Present day librarianship"; Miss Miriam Carey, "Are librarians social workers?"; Miss Marie L. Sheddlock, "Hans Christian Andersen," this lecture being given under the auspices of the Cleveland Kindergarten training school.

Recent placements of graduates are as follows:

Mildred M. Burke, '11, assistant, Deposit department, Chicago public library.

Mary K. Marshall, '14, index and catalog clerk, Ordnance department, Washington.

Ruth Savord, '14, assistant to supervisor, Western Union Telegraph Co., New York City.

ALICE S. TYLER,  
Director.

#### University of Wisconsin

The academic schedule is suspended for February and March to emphasize the practical side of library work under faculty direction. Thirty-six libraries of the state and the office of the Governor are co-operating with the school by receiving students for field work on a schedule of definite library hours. The appointments are made for various forms of library work according to the need of the library, the previous experience of the student, or the student's progress in the class room. Besides the usual number of assignments for general experience, thirteen appointments were made, for work on library records, such as shelving and inventory, re-registration

and loan statistics, checking accessions and withdrawals, and for cataloging, either revising old catalogs, or beginning new ones.

Two libraries had students assigned for reclassification, changing from the expansive to the decimal form, with all that it involved of relabeling, changing call number on catalog cards, book card, pocket, etc. In the absence of three librarians, students took their places as acting librarians. Several special libraries in the Capitol afforded experience in both technical and reference work, and in filing and indexing. Because of the great demand in federal offices for this work, more field assignments were made for experience along these lines than in former years.

The twenty-third summer session of six weeks is announced for June 24 to August 3.

The number of students is limited, and the course is open only to properly qualified workers in Wisconsin, unless it is found that Wisconsin librarians applying for the course are less than the number which can be properly accommodated in the school room. Send for descriptive circular of the summer session.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,  
Preceptor.

Louisville, Ky.

The 1917 training class for the service of the Public library at Louisville, Ky., ended its work in February. Nine students were enrolled, including the librarian of the Public library at Shelbyville. In addition to the lectures on library routine, instruction was given in business methods, literary criticism, and writing. The course covered a period of 15 weeks.

#### Iowa summer school

There will be a summer school for library training under the auspices of the State university of Iowa, June 17 to July 26. Miss Miriam E. Carey, supervisor of state institutional libraries in Minnesota, will direct the course. Further information will be furnished on application to the University library, Iowa City.

### Interesting Things in Print

The Iowa state college has issued a list of "Books for drafted men." It is intended to accompany the course given for drafted men by the Department of Engineering at Iowa state college.

A book written by F. von Frantzius, entitled "Book of truth and fact," has been found in one of the camp libraries. It is regarded by military authorities as enemy propaganda.

Supplement III. Aids to the study and use of law books in "Notes on legal bibliography," by Frederick C. Hicks, law librarian of Columbia university, has been issued.

A list of "Twelve thousand books of good reading" from fiction, biography, poetry and miscellaneous has been compiled by the English department of the Syracuse high schools and the staff of the Public library of Syracuse, N. Y.

The *Baylor Bulletin* for December, 1917, is made up of a handbook of the library. This is published with the idea of explaining more fully the library methods and tools and to make library service more efficient for the students. The library now contains about 30,000 v.

The Immigrant Publishing Society has issued in its series "Library work with the foreign born" by John Foster Carr, a booklet entitled "Winning friends and citizens for America," especially work with Poles, Bohemians and others, prepared by Eleanor E. Ledbetter of the Cleveland public library.

A collection of essays and addresses, selected from the writings of the late Henry E. Legler has been issued under the title *Library ideals*. The volume went through the press under the direction of Mr Legler's son, Henry Legler, Jr.

The latest volume in the series issued by the H. W. Wilson Co., is "Vocational Education," which is just published. It is similar to the other volumes of the series in that it contains a selected bibliography and reprints of the most important material on the

subject found in periodicals, and educational addresses. Every phase of the vocational problem is treated by experts who are specially fitted by study and experience to speak and this volume will place before those interested, in most convenient form, the opinions of the experts.

A selected critical bibliography of publications in English relating to the world war, prepared by George Matthew Dutcher, professor of history, Wesleyan university, has been issued as a war supplement to the *History Teacher's Magazine*, March, 1918. The bibliography was prepared in coöperation with the National Board for Historical Service. The compiler has made his notes directly from the books concerned.

The purpose of the list is to include books on the cause, problems and issues of the war, on the question of war and peace, and on the several countries, their conditions, problems and relations.

Copies of the bibliography can be obtained in reprint form from the publishers, McKinley Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

### An Important Correction

A letter from Mr S. H. Ranck of Grand Rapids in relation to the story of a Model city charter which appeared in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for December states that some inaccuracies appear in it. Mr Ranck says that the committee to draw up the part relating to libraries was appointed by Mr. Woodruff and not by the president of the A. L. A., and that he, himself, "suggested the names that were named by the League." The report was submitted at the Detroit meeting, not at Denver. Correction is cheerfully made.

Plans are under way for that development, but we have been waiting the decision on the appointment of a librarian. I can say now there will be a great extension of our work in all parts of the city. The greatest service of a library is through the circulation of books. To increase that will be our object.—C. B. Roden.

**Department of School Libraries**

**The Library and the Schools**

A very special community opportunity for the library is the work with its schools. Work like this: A sixth grade geography class comes to the library at ten o'clock this morning for a lesson in Kansas geography and industries. Teacher and librarian made the plan yesterday. Here are maps, topographical, physiographical, geological. (The connection between Kansas geology and Kansas wheat is very close.) Here are pictures, post cards, and specimens of Kansas salt and salt factories, Kansas cement and cement works, Kansas wheat, flour mills, Kansas gas and oil wells and refineries and pipelines, Kansas zinc, and the cattle in the fields. With these cards, the class drives thru the beautiful streets of Topeka, it goes to see the Emporia normal school and the University at Lawrence. Then the library's Kansas books supplement the pictures and invite the boys and girls to come again and again. This is coöperation and service of the most economical and efficient type.

Or community service like this: An eighth or ninth grade class, or the woman's club, is studying Tennyson. Arthur and his knights and the castle of Tintagel and the Round Table are quite unreal to the average class. But come to the library: From the collection of mounted pictures, here are the twin castles at Tintagel, and the cave down next to the sea. Here is the mound at Glastonbury, where the knights gathered round the table. Here is Arthur's round table from the castle at Winchester. Here is Arthur's statue at Winchester, where he was king. Here is that medieval sculptor's conception of Arthur, from the cathedral at Innsbruck. Here is Galahad, the blessed knight, from Eton College chapel. Here is Lowell's conception of the Holy Grail and Christ appearing to Arthur's knight who sought the Grail

And then again, from the pictures the library books beckon and call: Arthur and his knights are real; see and read and understand; they are your own.

Or the library's community service may be like this: Here comes the little tots from the kindergarten. What has the library for them? A bright airy room. Little low tables. Little low chairs. Low shelves. Picture books. The Brownies at play, the Kewpies at play, just like teacher shows us how to play. Butterflies, fairies, giants, castles, Brer Rabbit, Brer Fox, Peter Pan. This is not stuff and nonsense. The teacher kindles or guides the child's imagination, starts him to putting two and two together, touches his heart. In the library the child finds it's all real, that there was a really truly giant and Jack conquered him. Again I say, this is not stuff and nonsense. After while, that child to manhood grown, digs the Panama canal.

Work with the schools and children is the most important community service the library can perform. It is more important even than the women's clubs.

W. H. KERR.

**New York Meeting**

The regular meeting of the New York High School Librarians association was held at Washington Irving high school on February 13.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Miss Sarah Annett, Washington Irving high school; vice-president, S. Ridley Parker, Boys high school; secretary and treasurer, Katharine M. Christopher, Julia Richman high school.

Miss Mary Frank, of the New York traveling library, gave an interesting talk on the various phases of the work of her department.

KATHARINE M. CHRISTOPHER,  
Secretary.



## News from the Field

## East

Edna H. Wilder, New York P. L. '14-16, has left her place in the New Haven public library to become librarian at Middletown, Connecticut.

Helen Salzmann, New York P. L. '14-16, has resigned as librarian of the Lamont memorial library, McGraw, N. Y., to become a branch librarian in the New Haven public library.

As a memorial to his son, W. H. Meeker, who was killed in France, Henry H. Meeker of New York has given his son's library of over one thousand volumes to Harvard. This was done in accordance with the wishes of his son.

The mayor of Boston asked and received an opinion from the Corporation counsel of the city to the effect that the trustees of the Boston public library have no right to fix salaries in their department without the mayor's approval.

The present system has been in effect for 40 years and the mayor's position touches about 150 salary increases in the library department which went into effect February 1.

The annual report of the Boston public library sets forth a plan for a survey of that institution by library experts. This survey is intended in no way to cast reflection on the past administration but is prompted by the feeling that the institution will be benefited by a survey of the buildings, equipment, collection, method and service to the public. The trustees have the hearty approval of Mr Belden in the proposed inquiry. It is hoped that it will be shown that the library possesses advanced methods which other libraries might well adapt and it is also designed to take advantage of any improved systems anywhere in use which could be adopted by the Boston public library.

Edwin H. Anderson, director of the Public library, New York and Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the Public library at St. Louis, have been invited to serve on the commission. They will select a third member to form a commission of three.

## Central Atlantic

Alexandra McKechnie, New York P. L., was married to Edward A. Irving in the summer of 1917.

Rumana K. McManis, Wisconsin '15, has accepted a position in the Branch Department, New York public library.

Carson Brevoort, Pratt '15, has been made assistant in the library of the Commercial high school in Brooklyn.

Fannie E. Cox, Wisconsin '14, accepted a government position recently, as index clerk, Gun division of the Bureau of Ordnance.

Helen M. Craig, Pratt '09, has accepted a position on the staff of the Engineering library of the Western Electric Company.

Marion Watson, New York P. L., '12-14, has left the library of Columbia University and has taken a position in the Extension division of the New York public library.

Guido Mariotti, N. Y. State '16-'17, has been transferred from the library of the Biological survey, Washington, D. C., to the Legislative Reference division of the Library of Congress.

Edith Crowell, New York P. L., '11-13, has left her position as librarian of the Public library, Bernardsville, N. J., to enter the U. S. A. Ordnance department at Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

Miss Margaret A. McVety has resigned her position as reference librarian of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, Pa., to accept a position with the Life Extension Institute in New York City.

The annual report of the Public library of Irvington, N. J., records a circulation of 73,311 v. Receipts, \$5,251; expenditure, \$5,100. Number of borrowers, 4,607. Volumes on the shelves, 9,028.

Florence Adams, Pratt '13, has resigned the librarianship of the firm of Cravath & Henderson to return as librarian to the Polytechnic preparatory school. Alice I. Vail, '13, also a member of the staff of the Pratt Institute free library, has taken Miss Adams' former position.

Anna Burns, Pratt, '08, formerly head of the Central circulation department of the New York public library, has been made librarian for Haskins and Sells, certified public accountants, New York city.

It is reported that Miss Winona C. Martin, formerly librarian at Carnegie library in Rockville Center, L. I., was among the victims of the air raid in Paris on March 11. Miss Martin left for France a few weeks ago to engage in canteen work. She was among six women killed when the Claud Bernard hospital in Paris was hit by the German air raiders.

The report of the Johnson library at Hackensack, N. J., records a year of usefulness with a circulation of 83,302 v., an increase of 30 percent over the previous year. Registered borrowers, 6,741, an increase of 13 percent. A gift of 399 selected volumes pertaining to military affairs was received from F. B. Van Vorst, one of the trustees. There are 22,465 v. on the shelves. Hackensack contributed \$801 to the camp library fund. Receipts for the year, \$8,266; expenditures, \$7,699.

#### Central

Charles F. Fiebig, for 19 years a member of the Public library board at Rock Island, Ill., died March 1.

Margaret Gilpin, Wisconsin '17, has accepted the position of librarian of the Public library of Nashwauk, Minn.

Miss J. J. Beals, for 18 years superintendent of the reference department of the Public library, St. Paul, has resigned.

Miss Helen Clark, librarian of the Public library of St. Joseph, Mich., resigned her position, to take effect in April.

Edna Roeseler, Wisconsin '16, has been promoted to be librarian of the new East End branch, Superior public library.

Edith L. Mattson, Wisconsin '13, has been elected chief of the information bureau and commercial library of the National Safety Council, Chicago.

Anna A. Kosek, Wisconsin '11, accepted the position of cataloger in the Lincoln library, Springfield, Ill., the appointment beginning March 1.

Laura J. Gage, Wisconsin '15, has been made cataloger of the Public library, Oak Park, Ill. For the past year she has been assistant in the Public library, Superior, Wis.

Flôrence Price, Wisconsin '17, has resigned from the reference department of the Des Moines public library to accept a position on the staff of the Iowa state library.

Frances M. Hogg, Wisconsin '16, has resigned as cataloger of the Public library, Great Falls, Mont., to accept a similar position in the Public library, La Crosse, Wis.

Eleanor M. Fawcett, Wisconsin '12, has resigned as librarian of the Public library, Oskaloosa, Iowa, to accept a position in the Public library of Cedar Rapids.

Josephine Andrews, librarian of the Public library at Mishawaka, Ind., has resigned her position to enter the service of the Government signal office at Washington.

The annual report of the Public library of Clinton, Iowa, records a circulation of 117,005 v. and 23,708 pictures; population served, 26,091; number of volumes on the shelves, 25,275; card holders, 10,544.

Louis J. Bailey, librarian of the Public library, Gary, Ind., who has been serving as camp librarian at Camp McClellan, is to serve as district supervisor, visiting Camps McClellan, Sheridan, Shelby and perhaps others.

Miss Clara Williams, after 21 years' service as librarian of the Public library of Troy, Ohio, has resigned. As librarian she has seen the collection grow from a few books in cramped quarters to the present well-housed library and varied collection of some 17,000 v. Her successor has not been appointed.

The Public library of Madison, Wis., records a circulation of 195,018 v. All

public and parochial schools were furnished school libraries. The use of the library was explained by talks in school rooms and by classes held in the library. There are 16,073 readers registered.

The annual report of the Public library of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, records a circulation of 242,228 v. The juvenile circulation was 54.7 percent of the total. The salaries of the staff, \$8,804; books, \$4,539. A number of deposit stations were placed in business houses and institutions. Population served, 43,000. Number of days open during the year, 364; number of cards in force, 13,311.

The St. Louis public library has added a medical officer to its staff in the person of Dr Harriet Stevens. Dr Stevens is to be in the library one day a week when she may be seen or consulted by any members of the staff. Her duties do not include medical treatment. Examinations are made in library time and at the library's expense.

At the patriotic food show held at Decatur, February 27-March 2, the library booth attracted much attention. A library conference was called by Miss Price of the Library commission to consider the library's share in solving the food problem. A round table was held at the Decatur public library, February 27. There were 14 present including Miss Price and Mr Deveneau and librarians of the Tuscola, Pana, Bement, Clinton and Decatur libraries.

The report of the librarian of Oberlin college records a total of 39,356 pieces, including books, bound magazines, newspapers, maps, charts, manuscripts, prints, etc., added to the library. Number of volumes on the shelves, 361,094, with about 90,000 duplicates in addition.

Important gifts during the year were received, particularly large collections from ex-Senator T. E. Burton, E. S. Hall and Prof. A. H. Currier. There were 17,247 pieces cataloged during the year. The card catalog contains 519,161 cards. There were 213,674 readers using the library rooms, exclusive of those who used the seminar collection. Total in-

come for the library, \$16,901; expenditures, \$29,312.

The annual report of the Newberry library, Chicago, records number of readers, 49,775, an average decrease over the use in 1916 of 1,118 a month. The number of volumes issued to readers, 97,585, a decrease of 14,526. No account was taken of the extensive use made of the open-shelf collection. The absorption in war-time activities accounts for the decrease in the use of the library.

Notwithstanding the decrease in figures, the records show a considerable amount of special study and investigation carried on by scholars and experts, in the material of the library, not found elsewhere in the Middle West.

Interesting exhibits of printed books, manuscripts and engravings were held during the year. Current issues of 664 periodicals were received during the year. Owing to war conditions, no issues were received of 135 foreign periodicals, mainly Austrian and German publications. The total number of volumes in the library is 375,182.

#### South

Olga Wyeth, who has been connected with the library of the University of Illinois, has been appointed to Camp Wadsworth, S. C., to take charge of camp work in the camp hospital there.

Willis W. Williams, supervisor of gifts and exchanges in the library of the University of Texas, died Thursday, February 28, age 62. Mr Williams was connected with the Tulane university at New Orleans for 18 years.

Maude LeRoy, Wisconsin '12, resigned from the cataloging department of the Minneapolis public library to accept a federal appointment in the Statistical branch of the Quartermaster General's office.

Miss Blanch Watts, for some time librarian of the Public library, Owensburg, Ky., has again joined the staff of the Kentucky library commission, a position she held before going to Owensburg.

Florence M. Floyd died at her home in Long Beach, California, on March 10 after a short illness. She served as an assistant for several years in the public library of Sedalia, Missouri, later accepting a position as assistant in the University of Texas Library. She resigned in 1914 to take a year's training in the University of Illinois Library Training School. From there she went to the Kentucky Library Commission where she was assistant secretary until January, 1918.

A collection of literature belonging to the late John H. Wrenn of Chicago has been bought by the University of Texas. The purchase was made possible by a gift of \$225,000 by Major George E. Littlefield of Austin, Tex.

The library contains many editions and manuscripts from the pre-Shakespearean period down to the twentieth century. It contains many volumes which even the British Museum does not have. It was collected through the coöperation of the famous collector of London, Thomas J. Wise. The market value of the collection is said to be nearly \$450,000.

The report of the librarian of the University of North Carolina shows the number of volumes on the shelves, 79,205; books issued from the desk, 34,106; queries posted for debate, 32; references posted for debate, 259. The use of material on the open shelves of the department was not recorded. This library extends its services to the state at large by answering inquiries and loaning books on special subjects.

The income for the year was \$11,561. Two trained workers were added to the staff, Miss C. S. Love, New York state library, and Mary L. Thornton, Atlanta school. A large number of valuable gifts were received.

#### West

Helen R. McCoy, N. Y. State '12-'13, has gone to the Denver public library as reference assistant.

Agnes King, Wisconsin '14, accepted a federal appointment on January 1, and is in the Statistical branch, Quartermaster General's office. Miss King was chief of

the children's department in the Normal school, Emporia, Kansas, before undertaking war work.

The report of the Public library of Leavenworth, Kans., records a total circulation of 75,735 v., 3.9 per capita of population. Number of borrowers, 4,749; percentage of population, 24. Books on the shelves, 26,172; receipts, \$6,332; expenditure, \$6,026. The library has outgrown its income which must either be increased or the service curtailed.

The report of the library of Wichita, Kans., records a circulation of 91,361 v., a growth of 33 percent. No record is kept of the books and magazines read in the library but a similar growth was observed in their use.

About 30 organizations meet regularly and others hold occasional meetings. There were exhibitions during the year of Japanese art, etchings, posters, Red Cross work, and some interesting local loans.

An item of \$1,710 was raised for the war library fund. Expenditure for books, \$3,716; salaries, \$4,195; total expenditures, \$10,651, out of an asset of \$10,748.

#### Pacific Coast

Miss Mary L. Marshall, for 23 years librarian of the West End library, Alameda, Calif., died March 2.

An exhibit of merchant flags of 17 allied countries was held the last week in February in the Public library, Tacoma, Wash.

Verna M. Evans, Wisconsin '14, was married December 12 to Mr Fred H. Clapp of Ontario, Cal. Miss Evans has held the position of cataloger in the Public library, San Diego, Cal.

Hazel E. Askey, Wisconsin '13, began work December 1 as assistant in the Siskiyou County free library, Yreka, Cal. She had been assistant in the California state library previously.

Helen M. Harris, N. Y. State '15-'16, has resigned as librarian of the Queen Anne high school library, Seattle, to become librarian of the Lincoln Park high school at Tacoma.

Mildred H. Pope, N. Y. State '15-'16, has resigned her position as librarian of the Lincoln Park high school library, Tacoma, to accept a similar post at Queen Anne high school, Seattle.

The Scandinavian societies of Tacoma have joined with the public library in purchasing for the reference room the Nordisk Familjebok, the 30 volume encyclopedia of the Scandinavian peoples.

The report of the Public library of San Francisco for 1917 contains an account of the proceedings at the dedication of the new Public library building. The addresses, together with a description of the building, form an interesting recital. The removal and installation in the new building required but two weeks because of the thoughtful planning that was done beforehand.

The annual circulation for the entire system was 1,187,754 v., an increase of over 26,000. The number of card holders is 57,966. Two new branches were opened and a survey of all the branches was made with the purpose of determining their most urgent needs. A number of deposit stations supplemented the work of the branches. Sub-branches are recommended to further extend the work.

A plea is made for the readjustment of salaries. The report states that the remuneration of assistants is smaller than that received in other cities and less than all other employees in the municipal service.

#### Canada

The ninth annual report of the Public library of Fort William, Ontario, gave some interesting figures: Population, 17,911; percentage of population registered 27.3; number of volumes in the library, 22,591; total number of books circulated, 98,424; increase 9,257 v; total expenditure, \$11,748.

The annual report of the Public library, Toronto, shows an extension of the use, not only of the material in the main library but in the branches and the deposit stations in connection with the system. Total use of books for the year, 1,344,742. Of this number, books

circulated among the boys and girls reached 355,325. The number of books on the shelves, 300,000.

An exhibit of an art loan from the National Gallery at Ottawa of 20 representative paintings by well known artists attracted much attention. The lecture room was used 193 times by outside organizations.

#### Foreign

The annual report of the Public library of Leeds, England, just at hand records somewhat of a decrease in the extent of its activities though not in the quality. The circulation was 1,186,319 v., a decrease of 64,108 v., compared with the previous year. The absence of many who are serving their country in various ways accounts for this decrease. At the same time, the continued restricted lighting of the streets during the winter months affected the attendance in the reading room. The increased cost of books as well as a decrease in the amount available has had its effect.

A number of gifts of books and publications have been received with appreciative thanks. The reference library has done more intensive, if not so much extensive work along lines of usefulness.

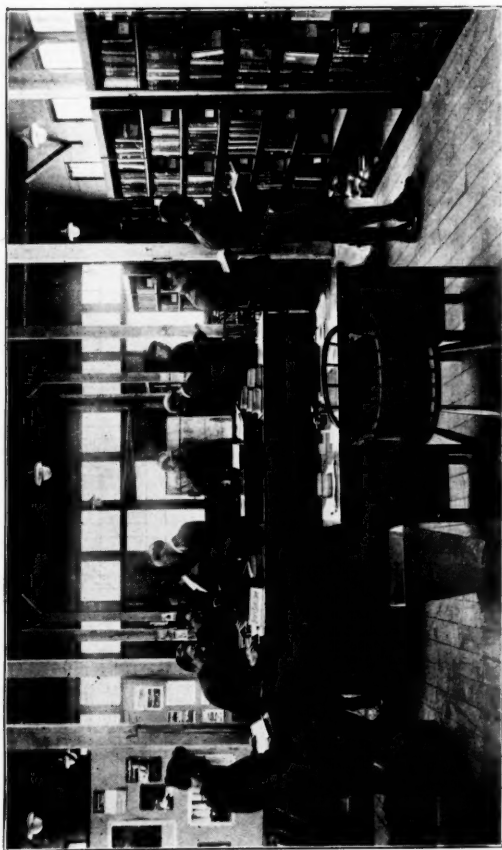
The annual report of the Public library of Adelaide, South Australia, records the loss by death of the senior member and vice president of its library board. The librarian, H. R. Purnell, is absent on military duty. Assistant librarian, H. J. Keyes, has been appointed acting librarian.

Comparatively few losses have been met in transit of books and over-seas papers.

Several years ago some phonographic records were taken and were carefully packed away. A recent inspection showed that these records had been attacked by mould and were useless. This serves to point out the fact that metallic records are necessary if desired to be preserved over a long period.

The number of volumes in the library is 99,413.





Library at Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich.

# Public Libraries

A monthly publication devoted to the advancement of library work

## CONTENTS

Camp Custer library	<i>Frontispiece</i>	Camp library letters	229-231
Concerning some library fallacies	199-204	A military family	231
Mary J. L. Black		Literature most widely read	231
Some good stories that dignify manual labor	204-206	The Ontario library association	232-233
Mrs C. W. Freund		Eighteenth annual meeting	
Communications	207-209	American Library Association	234
<i>When is a mote not?—Who's what?—Not so bad as reported—Unjust criticism—Book lists wanted—Same book with two names—Librarians with the colors—Book mutilation—Library examination</i>		Saratoga Springs conference	
Editorial	210-213	Better Community conference, 1918	234
A librarian's message	214	Library meetings	235-238
A comparison of expenditures	215-216	Chicago	
Internal bulletins	216	District of Columbia	
War and the library	216-219	Massachusetts	
U. S. Food Administration	220-221	Missouri	
Destruction of the library of the University of Louvain	221-222	New York	
The first American librarian killed in France	222	Coming meetings	
Library war service	223-228	Interesting things in print	238-239
Notes and news from Headquarters		Library schools	239-244
The book drive	229	California state library	
		Carnegie library, Pittsburgh	
		University of Illinois	
		Los Angeles public library	
		New York public library	
		New York state library	
		Pratt institute	
		Riverside, Cal.	
		St. Louis library school	
		Simmons college	
		Summer schools	
		War activities in Riverside, Cal.	244
		News from the field	245-250

## ADVERTISERS

Chivers Book Binding Co.....	<i>Front cover</i>	The Baker & Taylor Co.....	vi
Peabody, Houghteling & Co.....	<i>Front cover</i>	Chas. M. Higgins & Co.....	vi
A. C. McClurg & Co.....	i	Wm. H. Rademaekers & Son.....	vi
Library Bureau.....	ii and iii	Charles Scribner's Sons.....	vi
John Wanamaker.....	iv	G. P. Putnam's Sons.....	<i>Back cover</i>
The Open Court Publishing Co.....	iv	Wagenvoord & Co.....	<i>Back cover</i>
American Library Association.....	v	F. C. Stechert Co.....	<i>Back cover</i>
Oxford University Press.....	v	R. P. Winckler.....	<i>Back cover</i>
H. R. Hunting Co.....	v	B. F. Stevens & Brown.....	<i>Back cover</i>